



MINK DISEASES



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Cannibalism in Mink Kits

On large mink farms, occasional instances of cannibalism among the kits cause little concern. On the other hand, cannibalism involving many litters is not treated so casually.

Older kits can be placed in individual cages and their wounds treated with topical sulfa or antibiotic preparations. Unfortunately, most cannibalism occurs at least a month before the kits can be separated. Thus, feeding and individual treatment are difficult.

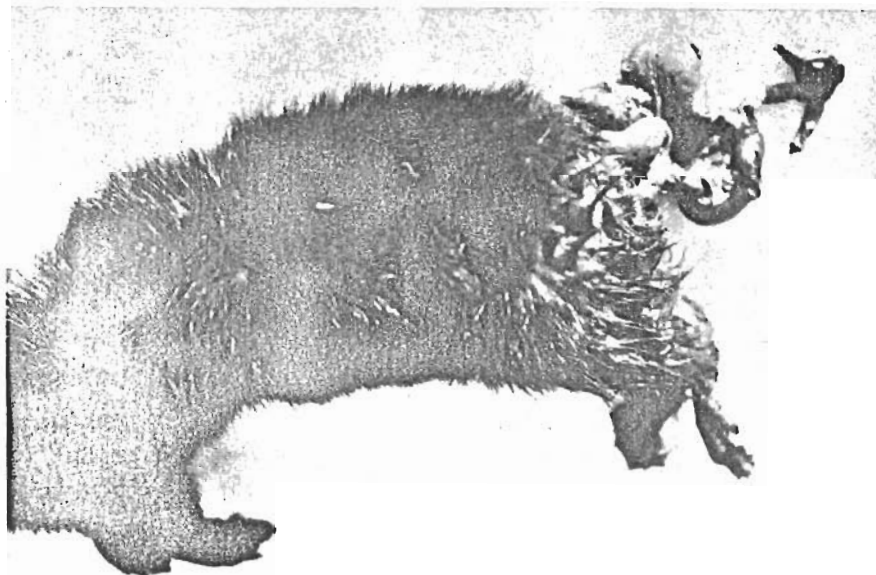
We have no specific suggestions for controlling the condition. At a recent meeting of the Great Lakes Mink Association in Milwaukee, the question of cannibalism in young kits was raised. Independently, two raisers reported that they gained a measure of control by increasing the fat level in the diet. Whether this ration change supplied more calories (energy) or some essential fatty acids is unknown,

but it seemed to have been of some assistance.

Mr. Lee Paola, Manager of the Pacific Fur Foods, Inc., Boring, Oregon, related the following: Three years ago several farmers observed that as many as five per cent of their kits were being chewed by litter mates. At that time, the kits were 4 to 6 weeks of age. The weather was damp and cold and the kits preferred to stay in their nest boxes, and thus were in close contact with each other.

For the last two years, cannibalism was markedly reduced by adding additional fat in the diet. The farmers receiving the mixed feed reported less fighting during the first two weeks of June and fewer chewed kits. It does seem reasonable that a kit would be more satisfied and less likely to attack its litter mates if its energy requirements were sufficient.

Animal Disease and Parasite Research Division,
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Agriculture and Washington State University.



Cannibalism follows fighting among restless kits. Chewed ears and heads are common; however, kits sometimes gang up and disembowel a pen mate (above) leaving the skull, ribs and backbone.

Frankfurt Fair

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Muller, Mayer, and Rosenberg & Lenhart stands. Attendance of U.S. furriers was large; among others attending were Louis Wheeler, J. Biegeleisen, Evans Fur, Abe Ackerman, Phillip Christie, Eugene K. Denton, L. Kraus, Nussenow.

Emba posters and enlargements were loaned by us to Dunager, John F. Morris, Grosvenor and to the Haus der Kurschner for prominent display.

Pelts from the stand were wanted by both Erich Kunze, Berlin and Lipsia of Frankfurt and we decided to divide the skins equally. We are billing both firms accordingly. There were many inquiries for acquisition of the skins and no problem was presented in selling the Rovalia brand at \$75.

The Frankfurter Hof presented us with a gigantic 10th anniversary birthday cake, which took two men to carry on a special cart. There was much icing, 10 candles and a sign in the icing, "Emba Moden Schau 1965-66 10 Jahre die Albert Woodley Co. Inc." It was a nice added touch of recognition for Emba before the fur elite of Europe.

The Emba stand in Halle IV, now in its third year of service, was reconditioned and probably is still the most attractive in the entire complex of five buildings. It is smart and in fine taste, with delicate silk colored platforms for showing off the skins. We are now required to re-export it to France or pay a nominal duty and we chose the latter course, since it can do service in 1967.

The new display figures, imported from France, gave a gay, decorative touch of prestige. These figures may also remain without duty for next year.

It is difficult to assess the full value of our presentations because we impress all sections of the trade from so many sides. In the Fair itself we have the superior look of the stand and the wealth of quality furs in so many colors, and the Mink Wheel showing the great variety of Emba.

We also meet with the dealers, buying agents, retailers, wholesalers; hand out literature to approved people, talk Emba in different languages—English, German, French, Spanish and Italian. Many are new friends for Emba, others are people known to us as attending U.S. sales in person.

In the Emba Show, we are hosts to many: Fong of Hong Kong, Cornelius of Australia, Djanandji of Beirut. Important buyers from all over the world received all this Emba hospitality and Emba impact on a greater scale than ever and, what is so satisfactory, no competing producer offers anything remotely like it.