

Ketosis May Be Space Traveler Ill University Researcher Reveals

It is possible that future space travelers may suffer from ketosis if forced to "hibernate" on long journeys, said a professor of pharmacology studying the disease this week. Dr. David Kronfeld, assistant professor of pharmacology engaged in the use of radioisotopes in the study of metabolic diseases of cattle at the New Bolton Center of the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine near Kennett Square, said Wednesday, "It is important that we find

out how cows and sheep manage to get along with such a little bit of glucose in their body cells."

Speaking during the Conference on Animal Diseases and Ground Breaking ceremonies for a new clinic and dormitory at the center, Dr. Kronfeld explained that Ketosis occurs in both man and animals when the body fails to make proper use of glucose. It also occurs, he said, when animals are fasting or exercising severely, and also in connection with



EXAMINING A "SNORTER" DWARF Angus at the Animal Disease Conference and Ground Breaking ceremonies for a new clinic and dormitory at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Veterinary Medicine Research Center near Kennett Square are, L to R, Dr. J. Ellis Crowshaw, associate in anatomy, William Reid, Oxford R.I. Dairyman, and Chester County Agent, Robert Powers. The heifer in the picture is two years old. She shows the typical shortened face and distended belly associated with dwarf. Research at the school is concerned with developing a test which will identify cows and bulls carrying the recessive genes which produce dwarf offspring. —L.F. Photo

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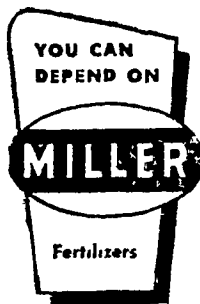
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certain diseases such as pregnancy toxemia in cows and sheep and diabetes in humans

Dr. Kronfeld said research on ketosis actually began before the turn of the century, but advances were slow until the advent of the radioactive materials. By building radioactive carbon into glucose and other compounds, the progress of the compound can be traced through the body of the animal.

Since the cow, sheep and other ruminants absorb very little glucose from their digestive tracts, but rather absorb large amounts of fatty substances which readily form ketone bodies, they (ruminants) make excellent laboratory animals for the study of ketosis, the professor said. If we can learn how ruminants have adapted their bodies to use such small amounts of glucose, we will have gone a long way toward conquering dia-

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