

# Indian scientists clone buffalo: report

June 7 2009

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Cloned buffalo calf 'Garima,' seen here at an undisclosed location in India. Scientists in the Indian state of Haryana have reportedly cloned a buffalo using foetal tissue in order to boost the species' population.

Scientists in the Indian state of Haryana have cloned a buffalo using foetal tissue, according to a report.

The female calf named Garima weighed 43 kilograms (95 pounds) and was born at the National Dairy Research Institute in the city of Karnal in northern India, according to the Hindu newspaper.

"Garima is absolutely healthy and we are fully optimistic about her survival," institute director A.K. Srivastava was quoted as saying.

India cloned the world's first buffalo in February, but it died of

pneumonia within a week of its birth after being created from the ear tissue of a female [buffalo](#).

Scientists cloned Garima using tissue from a foetus as part of a "hand-guided [cloning](#) technique" which allows the sex of the calf to be chosen.

Srivastava said India has the largest population of buffaloes in the world and that cloning would increase the percentage of elite animals in the species.

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