

## **ABSTRACT**

### ***ESTRUS BEHAVIOR IN BARNED BALI CATTLE HEIFERS AT THE AGRICULTURE TEACHING, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FARM GADJAH MADA UNIVERSITY***

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*The purpose of this study was to determine the estrus behavior, symptoms of estrus, intensity of estrus, length of estrus and period of estrus cycle when they show natural estrus in barned Bali cattle heifers. This study used 5 heads of Bali cattle heifers age from 2.5 to 3 years old, with body weight  $217.6 \pm 11.2$  kgs, and then direct observed in the field in the morning, afternoon and evening when animals began showing symptoms of estrus until the symptoms were not visible anymore. Observations were made during three consecutive estrous cycles.*

*The results showed that heifers generally showed the symptoms of estrus with a clear intensity (score 3), with symptoms swelling of the vulva, reddeing in mocosa, warm, transparent and sticky mucus flowing out from the vagina, restless, preferring to be alone and separate from the group, decreased appetite, until the heifers in standing heat and be quiet when ridden by other cows. The calculation about the average length of estrus was  $24.1 \pm 0.31$  hours and an average period of estrous cycle  $20.9 \pm 3.45$  days. Based on the results showed that barned Bali cattle heifers were able to show symptoms of estrus. However, it is suggested that careful observation of estrus should be done to facilitate the implementation of mating in order to obtain optimal in conception results.*

***Key words*** : Bali cattle, natural estrus, symptoms of estrus, intensity of estrus, length of estrus and period of estrous cycle