

Animal Health in the Home

Did you know animal health benefits your day to day life?

Peru produces **6,000 tonnes** of Alpaca fibre/yr from fleeces of **more than 3.5 million animals**.^{viii} They are hardy animals living in harsh climates but still need vaccinations and worming to ensure their health.

From **218 mln tonnes** in 2000, global meat production is projected to increase to **376 mln tonnes by 2030**.^{ix} Innovations in animal health help towards greater animal welfare, increased food security and food safety. Happy and healthy animals are also naturally more productive.

By 2016, **Brazil will become the second largest pet care market in the world**, overtaking Japan. The largest market is the United States.^{vii}

\$294 bln is the estimated annual global value of bees' pollination work which produces honey, and the wax used in cleaning products.ⁱⁱⁱ Innovations in animal health technologies help protect bee populations.

We welcome pets in our homes thanks to vaccines and anti-parasitics that protect them against ticks, fleas, worms and otherwise fatal diseases such as **Feline Leukaemia virus (FeLV), the leading viral killer of cats, with 80-90% of infected cats dying within 3-4 years**.^{iv}

Water buffalo have been domesticated for over 5,000 years.^{xiii} Good husbandry, vaccination and veterinary care, have ensured their health. One buffalo produces many useful products, including milk and meat, their hide is used as leather, and their faeces as bio-fuel in remote areas.^{xiv}

70,000 people are killed each year worldwide due to rabies; 20,000 in India alone. Vaccinating 70% of the dog population has shown to protect people from rabies.ⁱⁱ

The animal health sector provides value to society by protecting the health and welfare of animals. We also play a role in protecting public health by bringing safer, more secure and sustainable food supplies, and by preventing the transmission of zoonotic diseases (i.e. transmissible between animals and people)

Wool-bearing animals are especially susceptible to anthrax, a deadly and contagious disease caused by the bacterium *Bacillus anthracis*. **Livestock anthrax vaccines are used worldwide** to protect both animal and human health.^x

Since 2000, WHO have reported a **25% reduction in malaria-related deaths globally** thanks to bed nets.^{xi} These protect against disease-carrying mosquitoes and tsetse flies which also transmit dengue and Rift Valley fever to people and animals.

Global aquaculture production has **increased by over 1000% these last 3 decades**.^{vi} Veterinary intervention and responsible aquaculture support coastal communities to provide a sustainable protein source.

After introducing a vaccination programmes for hens, laboratory- confirmed cases of illness from foodborne bacteria in the UK decreased by **over 90%** between 1993 and 2010.^v

Hendra virus is deadly to horses and life-threatening to humans. There is now a vaccination to protect horses in Australia where the disease is found.

Ticks are on every continent except Antarctica.^{xii} One disease they transmit is Lyme disease, to both people and animals. Vigilance and parasite protection products help to keep us and animals safe from vector-borne diseases.

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