

The Significance of Sustainable Animal Husbandry for a Growing World

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DESCRIPTION

Animal husbandry has been an essential part of human civilization for thousands of years, providing food and other products necessary for our survival. As the world population continues to grow, the demand for animal products is increasing, highlighting the importance of sustainable animal husbandry practices. The significance of sustainable animal husbandry for a growing world and its implications on food security, environment, and public health. Sustainable animal husbandry is an agricultural practice that aims to meet the current and future needs of society while preserving natural resources and ecosystems. This practice involves using innovative techniques that promote the welfare of animals, minimize environmental impacts and promote resilience in food systems. Sustainable animal husbandry practices can provide high-quality products, fair wages, employment, and generate improved livelihoods for smallholder farmers and local communities. Sustainable animal husbandry practices promote food security by ensuring the availability and accessibility of animal products. The demand for animal products is rising as the world population is estimated to reach 9.7 billion by 2050, requiring an increase of 70% in food production. Sustainable animal husbandry practices ensure that animal products are produced in a way that is safe, affordable, and accessible to all, without degrading natural resources and harming the environment.

Moreover, sustainable animal husbandry practices protect the environment and biodiversity. Unsustainable animal husbandry practices, such as industrial-scale livestock production, contribute to deforestation, water pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions. Livestock production is considered one of the largest contributors to climate change as it accounts for 14.5% of greenhouse gas emissions. Sustainable animal husbandry practices, such as grass-fed grazing and regenerative agriculture, promote ecosystem health, protect biodiversity, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Finally, sustainable animal husbandry practices promote public health by minimizing the risks of zoonotic diseases and antibiotic resistance. Industrial-scale animal husbandry practices often involve the use of antibiotics to promote growth and prevent disease. This leads to the emergence of antibiotic-resistant bacteria that pose a significant threat to public health. Sustainable animal husbandry practices, such as pasture-raised animals and agroecology, provide healthier and safer food products while minimizing the risks of zoonotic diseases and antibiotic resistance. Animal husbandry is an essential practice that involves the care and management of domestic animals for their products and services. It has been an integral part of human civilization for thousands of years, starting with the domestication of animals like goats, sheep, and cows. Animal husbandry practices have evolved over time from traditional subsistence farming to modern industrial-scale operations that provide for the growing demand for animal products. Animal husbandry involves a wide range of practices, including animal breeding, nutrition, disease prevention, and management. The goal of animal husbandry is to ensure the health, welfare, and productivity of animals while minimizing environmental impacts and promoting sustainability. The products and services obtained from animal husbandry include meat, dairy products, wool, leather, eggs, and honey. There are various types of animal husbandry practices, including extensive, intensive, and semi-intensive systems. Extensive animal husbandry involves raising animals in natural environments, such as pasture or grazing lands, with limited human intervention. Intensive animal husbandry, on the other hand, involves raising animals in confined spaces, often with the use of hormones and antibiotics to promote growth and prevent disease. Semi-intensive animal husbandry combines elements of both extensive and intensive systems. In recent years, there has been a growing concern about the environmental impacts of industrial-scale animal husbandry practices. These practices often involve the use of excessive amounts of water, energy, and land to produce animal products, leading to deforestation, water pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions.