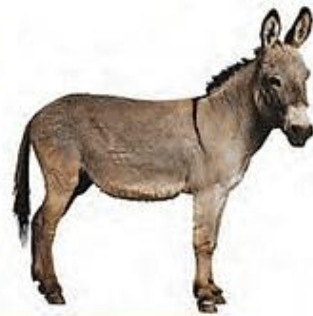


Livestock

Livestock cover farm animals with exception of poultry. It comprises primarily cattle. Cattle are large ruminant animals with horns and cloven hoofs, chiefly domesticated for beef or milk or as beasts of burden as cows and oxen. Sheep, pigs, goats, horses, donkeys, mules; other animals, such as buffaloes, oxen or camels, may predominate in the agriculture of other areas. Cattle are used for beef and dairy products. Sheep are primarily used for their fleece or wool, meat and to some degree for their milk. Pigs are raised for their meat (pork). Goat is raised for its meat and milk. Horses are used for riding, racing, farm work, or for drawing vehicles. Donkeys and mules are used as working/helping animals. Dogs and cats are not livestock; though they are good pets. Dogs provide many types of services to men.



Domestic Animals Cow Dung is a very rich manure. It is also used as fuel in the countryside. Cow Dung can also be used to run biogas plants. The gas is used in kitchen to cook. Cows and buffaloes serve us even after they are dead. Leather is made out of their skins.

The sheep provide us wool. The meat is eaten as mutton. In the desert lands, the camels carry men and goods on the sandy soils. The domesticated animals are useful to us in many ways. Modern farming practices make use of machines like tractors and harvesters. But the small farmers still depend on bullocks.



Healthy cattle are Farmer's asset

The bullock-cart is an all weather vehicle. It can go on kutcha roads and even in knee deep water. It can be repaired within the village. Fodder for the bullocks is available with the farmer. He need not go to the petrol pump or the garage. Tractors end up as scrap. But the cow leaves behind young ones who are again useful to us.

Cattle continue to have great importance in Indian villages. It is necessary that facilities should be available for their treatment in the villages itself.



Gobar Gas from cattle refuse

There are many breeds of cattle. Some are good for being used as beasts of burden. Others are good for milk yield.

It is now possible to improve the breed of cattle. Healthy cattle are a great asset to the farmer. Animals are always friendly to us.

They serve us from birth to death. They are a part of our comfortable life. We should always be kind to them.

Tips:

- Domestic animals have been man's friends since he learnt to grow crops.
- The cow and buffalo provide us milk. Their young ones serve as beasts of burden.
- Sheep provide us wool. Mutton is also a rich source of food.
- There is need for hospitals for cattle in the villages.