

SPECIAL APPEAL

Will you help to end the misery of parasites for working animals around the world?



Too many working animals are suffering in agony from parasite infestations. Lice, worms and ticks can all cause terrible suffering if left untreated. Please can you help? Thank you, Mathilde

Content approved by:
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SPANNA
For the working animals of the world

INFESTED. INFLAMED. IN AGONY.

Tiny parasites are causing huge problems for working animals. Itching to death, wasting away, drained of life – will you help to save them from the pain of parasites?

Parasites come in many forms. Lice and mites live under the hair on an animal's skin and can cause unbearable itching. In a desperate attempt to ease the irritation, infected animals may shred their skin as they rub themselves raw against fence posts or tree trunks. Whereas if worms find their way into a working animal's intestines, they can cause severe inflammation and prevent vital nutrients being absorbed – which can lead to life-threatening malnutrition. While gorging themselves on an animal's blood, ticks can transmit parasites into an animal's blood stream and cause deadly diseases.

Sadly, the conditions that donkeys, horses and camels face in the poorest parts of the world leaves them particularly vulnerable to picking up parasites. Flies and ticks thrive in the hot and dusty conditions, and animals living and working in close quarters can easily transmit parasites to each other. Animals infected with worms can pass eggs in their faeces, putting other animals who graze the same areas at risk of infection.



Some animals seriously wound themselves trying to ease the irritation caused by lice and mites

In many wealthier countries like the UK, control of ticks and worms are an everyday part of caring for animals. Simple solutions, such as worming treatments or pasture management, offer protection. However, many owners in impoverished communities don't have access to treatment or have the knowledge needed, and without SPANA, many animals would continue to suffer and live in constant pain.

SPANNA'S SOLUTION



So much suffering can be stopped with a simple solution of anti-parasite medication

Your support today can help so many working animals suffering the pain of parasites. Most parasite infestations can be treated with a simple solution – anti-parasite medication given by injection or orally as a paste. Our vets see hundreds of animals with parasites every week and are in constant need of medication to treat them. To accurately diagnose parasite infections, we need more laboratory equipment and consumables. This also helps monitor the local rates of infection so we can spot trends and intervene when needed.

It's crucial that in addition to treating infected animals, we also work hard to prevent parasite infestations. Every year SPANA performs over 150,000 preventative treatments. Your gift can fund these treatments as well as raise awareness among animal owners about the dangers of parasites.

In this report, we'll show you the impact your gift can have through the stories of three animals infected with parasites.

Your kindness can stop more working animals from suffering the pain of parasites.

ITCHING TO DEATH

When a working animal's skin becomes infested with parasites, the irritation can be excruciating.



Hani was suffering so badly with the irritation of scabies that she tried to scratch against barbed wire

Hani's story

Hani the donkey, who is 12 years old, has worked hard all her life. Each day, Hani and her owner, Mbarka work on a farm in Gattaya; a rural region in the south of Tunisia. The summers are hot and dry, while the winters are long, cold and windy.

Mbarka relies on Hani to keep the farm going and to transport essential water for the local community. So, when Mbarka noticed Hani becoming irritated by the skin on her side and chest, he started to worry. Soon Hani was biting herself and finding any surface to rub against to relieve herself from the unbearable itching, including a barbed wire fence. Hani was in so much pain she went off her food and she showed clear signs of being in distress.

When our mobile clinic next visited the area near Gattaya, Mbarka brought Hani for help. Our vets were quickly able to diagnose Hani as suffering from mange.

This excruciating skin condition, often known as scabies, is caused by tiny mites that burrow deep into the skin. The animal's skin can become inflamed while sores develop, and the animal loses their hair. Sadly, if left untreated, animals can mutilate themselves while attempting to relieve the severe irritation – and their wounds can become dangerously infected.

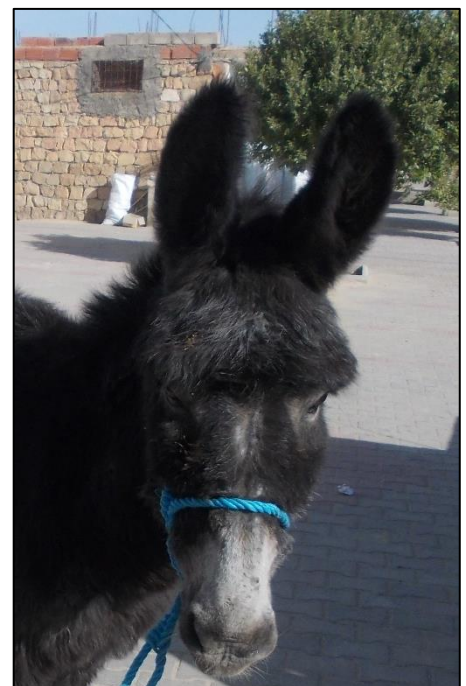
SPANNA's solution

Fortunately, Mbarka brought Hani to SPANA before she seriously injured herself. Our vets carefully treated Hani's wounds. To kill the parasites, they treated Hani's skin with an insecticide solution before injecting her with a dose of the anti-parasite medication, Ivermectin.

Our team also gave Hani nutritious feed and vitamins to help rebuild her strength. They spoke to Mbarka about Hani's diet and advised him to disinfect her stable and spray it with insecticide to ensure Hani didn't become re-infected. Hani would also need plenty of rest while she recovered. Two weeks later, Mbarka brought Hani back to the mobile clinic for another dose of Ivermectin to complete her treatment.

Hani is one of the lucky ones, but there are many more like her who desperately need treatment before they suffer the most severe consequences of external parasites.

Your donation can soothe the irritation of working animals like Hani, by keeping our clinics stocked with anti-parasite medication to treat painful skin conditions.



Hani is one of the fortunate ones who received the treatment needed to recover

WASTING AWAY

Intestinal parasites such as worms live in an animal's digestive system. They can leach vital nutrients and energy from the animal, eventually causing severe malnutrition.

Noe's story

Noe is one of many carthorses living in Boghé, Mauritania. Boghé is a bustling market town on the border with Senegal. Being one of the world's poorest countries, countless people in Mauritania are heavily dependent on working animals to earn a basic living.

Noe and his owner Mamadou work long hours in the scorching heat – with temperatures regularly peaking over 40C. They transport people, building materials and goods around Boghé and the surrounding villages. Noe is also relied on for transporting necessities like water and firewood at home.

Sadly, over the last few weeks Noe has been losing weight rapidly, causing him to become increasingly lethargic. Mamadou despaired as he saw his usually energetic horse begin to struggle with heavy loads – Noe seemed to be wasting away before his eyes.



Four-year-old Noe works long days to help his owner earn a basic living



Noe suffered terrible weight loss when he became infested with intestinal parasites

SPANNA's solution

Luckily a friend of Mamadou's told him about SPANA's centre, so Mamadou brought Noe in for treatment. Our expert team quickly got to work, immediately suspecting that Noe was suffering with intestinal parasites, likely ingested while he was grazing.

They examined a sample of Noe's faeces under a microscope to check for parasitic eggs. When parasites complete a full life cycle in an animal's intestinal track, the animal can pass parasitic eggs in their manure. These eggs hatch and then infect the animal all over again when it grazes – as well as any other animals that share their grazing ground.

The sample confirmed that Noe was suffering from a high burden of parasites, and our vets gave Noe a dose of Ivermectin – which is used to treat multiple types of parasites.

Our team also advised Mamadou about providing Noe with good quality food and plenty of rest to help him get back to a healthy weight. They asked Mamadou to bring Noe back in two weeks for a second round of treatment. Mamadou said: *'This treatment will help my horse to be better and get well. It really means a lot to me that my animal is treated by real vets and for free. Thank you SPANA.'*

Without treatment Noe's condition would have continued to worsen. As the worms developed in his digestive system, he could have suffered from severe malnutrition or deadly colic. In extreme cases, parasites can cause such extensive damage to the intestinal wall that it can lead to a painful death.

Your gift could save the lives of more animals like Noe by funding the essential equipment needed for accurate diagnosis, including microscopes and laboratory kit.

DRAINED OF LIFE

A working animal infected by blood parasites can quickly develop anaemia and a fever. They become increasingly lethargic as their energy is drained away from the inside.



Arpan became anemic and dehydrated due to an infestation of blood parasites

Arpan's story

Arpan, the four-year-old camel works for six hours a day with his owner Lalu. Together, they haul heavy loads of bricks from a brick kiln in Rajasthan, north-west India.

Lalu has a wife and four children who depend on him and Arpan. Lalu has worked with camels at the brick kilns for 30 years.

When Arpan stopped eating and drinking and seemed sluggish in his movements, Lalu was very worried. Luckily, he knew about SPANA's mobile clinic and took Arpan to be checked out on their next regular visit.

SPANNA's solution

Our vets thoroughly examined Arpan, and found he had a high temperature and swelling under his stomach, likely caused by anemia. Together with Lalu's report of Arpan's lack of appetite, Arpan was diagnosed with blood parasites.

Our team gave Arpan anti-parasite medication to treat the infestation as well as fluids and supportive treatment.

Without treatment the parasites in Arpan's blood stream would have continued to destroy his red blood cells – making it increasingly difficult for oxygen to circulate around his body. Day by day, Arpan's energy would have drained away and eventually he could have died from this terrible condition.

Lalu said: *'Thank you, you are doing very good work. My family is dependent on this one camel.'*

It's so important that working animal owners like Lalu, Mamadou and Mbarka recognise when their animal has parasites, so that they know to seek treatment at the earliest possible opportunity. SPANA's community training programme educates owners about parasites and the importance of keeping their animals' stabling and grazing ground clean.

By working together with communities, we can also encourage owners to bring their animals for preventative treatment. Through simple treatments such as deworming, anti-parasite dipping and spraying, we can protect working animals from the devastating consequences of a severe parasite infestation.



Through community training and preventative treatments, we can prevent working animals from suffering

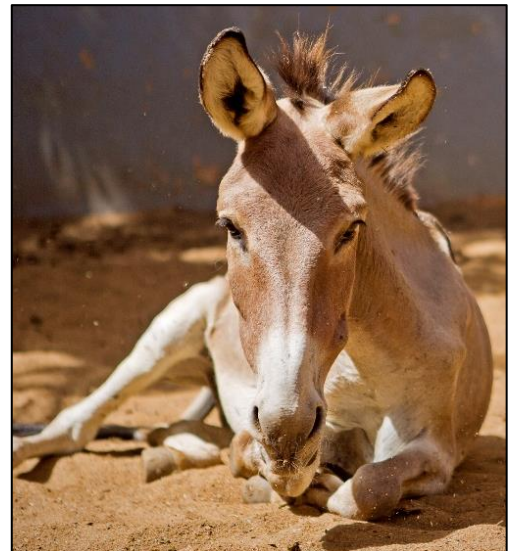
Your support can protect working animals from suffering the agony of parasites by providing community training and preventative treatments.

YOUR IMPACT

Only with your support, can we help more working animals like Hani, Noe and Arpan who are suffering in agony due to parasites.

Your donation could:

- Pay for anti-parasite medication, such as Ivermectin, to treat working animals like Hani who are itching to death due to external parasites.
- Help our vets accurately diagnose parasites, by funding essential laboratory kit, so we can stop animals like Noe from wasting away due to intestinal parasites.
- Provide community training and preventative treatments – to protect camels, like Arpan, and other working animals from being drained of life by deadly parasites.



Your support can be the difference between life and death for so many working animals infected with parasites. Your gift of:

- £250 could stock our centres and mobile clinics with anti-parasite medication to treat suffering working animals. At just £3 to treat one working animal, your gift could go such a long way.
- £500 could fund vital laboratory equipment such as microscopes and consumables such as slides, test tubes and protective gloves. With the correct equipment, our expert vets can accurately diagnose thousands of infested working animals each year.
- £1,000 could help to protect working animals from suffering in future – by raising awareness of the dangers of parasites among animal owners and funding preventative treatments. Every year, SPANA performs over 150,000 preventative treatments.



YOUR GIFT = EQUIPMENT + MEDICINE + COMMUNITY TRAINING = WORKING ANIMAL LIVES SAVED

Please make a donation to save the lives of working animals today and prevent more animals from suffering tomorrow. Thank you.