### 2019

# REPORT ON HEALTH AND AWARENESS CAMP HELD AT DEVA EQUINE FAIR (BARABANKI), UTTAR PRADESH





# DONKEY SANCTUARY WELFARE ASSOCIATION

09th -15th October 2019

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Donkey Sanctuary Welfare Association (DSWA), is a charitable organisation working for the animal welfare, human welfare and environment protection to achieve the objective of "One Health", in all the interventions which is sustainable and long lasting. DSWA organised a 7-day health and awareness camp for the equines brought for trading at Deva (Barabanki) fair from 9<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019 in collaboration with Donkey Sanctuary United Kingdom.

The Deva equine fair is organized every year in a place called **Deva** a town famous for its Islamic shrine / Dargah built over the grave of revered Sufi Saint.— "Haji Waris Ali Shah" who is preached and known as an "Epitome of universal love and brotherhood". **Deva is located in Barabanki District in Uttar Pradesh** around 15 kilometers from Barabanki and 45 kilometers from Lucknow city. This fair is organized once a year in the month of October which starts 10 days prior to full moon night as per Hindi Calendar. Deva equine fair is the largest animal (equine) fair wherein 6000-7000 equines are brought for trading every year and the fair site is spread over 3 sq.km area in eastern Uttar Pradesh. People come to this fair from all over UP, Bihar, Punjab, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and from Nepal. It is said that this fair is going on since Mughal Empire in India.















#### **HEALTH AND AWARENESS CAMP**

DSWA team did mapping of the entire fair area (photo below), divided it into different zones and carried out welfare assessment and education / awareness sessions. During the Seven-day camp, a total of 504 equines were treated and helped the Government Animal Husbandry Department in Disease surveillance (blood sampling and isolation procedures) during the fair period. The number of clinical cases attended are listed in the table and graph below.

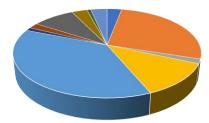


Mapping – Deva Equine Fair Ground

Besides treating the equines, the team of veterinary doctors and community education personnel also educated the equine owners and handlers on the care and management of the equines, disease prevention, isolation procedures, best husbandry practices, importance of buying young and healthy equines, common health problems and its preventive measures, wound management and hoof care, prevention of harness wounds and encouraging use of good quality back protectors and environment protection. **Animal Nepal team comprising of Dr. Shyam Sundar Sharma, Dr.Atish Yadav and Mr.Shankar** attended the fair along with DSWA team. This is the fourth year that DSWA and Animal Nepal team are collaborating to bring about life lasting changes to the welfare of equines and to prevent old, crippled and diseased equines being transported across the border to Nepal.

Clinical Cases attended during the camp			
SKIN	Pruritis, infections	7	
	Acariasis	8	
WOUNDS	Harness wounds (Back sore, brisket, crupper etc.)	12	
	other harness related (hobble wounds, abrasions)	32	
	other non-harness related (Bite wound, cut wound etc	92	
Sarcoid		8	
LAMENESS	Musculo skeletal problems	46	
	hoof abscess	3	
	Others (Overgrown hoof, cracked hoof, other hoof related problems)	9	
	Joints affected / Degeneration / swelling	3	
GASTRO-INTESTINAL	Colic	10	
	Gut parasites - clinical cases	35	
	Gut parasites - prophylactic	122	
	Diarrhoea, inappetance etc	21	
NEUROLOGICAL		-	
BLOOD PARASITES	Trypanosomiasis	6	
EYE	Trauma, opacity, eye worm etc	10	
RESPIRATORY	Strangles, infections/allergy	43	
GENERAL	Debility	16	
NOTIFIABLE	Glanders	-	
DENTAL	Sharp enamel / Tooth infections / others	4	
OTHERS	Blood sample for Glanders disease surveillance	17	

#### **Details of clinical cases attended**



- Skin
- Wounds
- Sarcoid
- Lameness
- Gastro-intestinal

- Neurological
- Blood parasites Eye
- Respiratory
- General debility

- Notifiable
- Dental
- Others































**DSWA and Animal Nepal team providing treatments to needed equines** 

We also liaised with Government Animal Husbandry Department officials **to set up the quarantine facility inside Deva Vet hospital premises** and for disease surveillance. We also liaised with Brooke India partner organisation staff and Deva fair committee members for improving the infrastructure facilities and thereby the welfare of equines brought for trading.





**Liaising with Government Animal Husbandry Department** 





**Equine Quarantine area inside Deva Government Vet Hospital Premises** 





**Liaising with Deva Fair organising Committee and Brooke India** 

The team also gathered information from the traders, buyers, sellers and others including the fair organisers to understand the population dynamics, movement of equines from different districts of UP and neighbouring states to the fair, amount collected by fair organizers from the equine owners for selling and buying equines etc. The total number of equines present at the fair (different zones divided by the team) as per our record was **7168.** We carried out individual and focused group interactions and carried out education and awareness sessions in different zones across the fair ground.

### **Equine owners / traders come from different districts of Uttar Pradesh, Neighboring State and Country** (Table below)

-	Lucknow	- Pilibhit	- Muzzaphernahar	- Nepal
-	Barabanki	- Muradabad	- Azamgar	
-	Devaria	- Nainital	- Datiya(MP.)	
-	Gorakhpur	- Lakhimpurkhiry	- Balia	
-	Basti	- Rampur		
-	Allahabad	- Seetapur		
-	Auraiya	- Hardoi		
-	Bijnor	- Sandila		
-	Kanauj	- Fatehpur		
-	Raibarely	- Mau		









**Education and awareness sessions with equine owners and Nepal traders** 

The DSWA team also visited the temporary ramps set up in the fair ground and evaluated the conditions which are causing numerous wounds while loading and unloading the equines from vehicles. As per the assessment, we strongly believe that **Permanent ramps are required to ensure that the equines are loaded / unloaded without any injuries.** 







Temproary ramps in the fair ground

#### Visit to Barabanki Fair by DSWA Board of Directors

The DSWA Chairperson Mrs.Madhu Kapoor and Director Mrs.Nisha Valluri visited the fair on 14<sup>th</sup> morning to see the camp organised, understand the dynamics involved in equine fairs, infrastructure availability and also to meet the concerned officials. They interacted with DSWA and Animal Nepal team, went around rge fair ground to observe the conditions and also met Government Veterinary Department officials to discuss about collaborating to build permanent ramps.

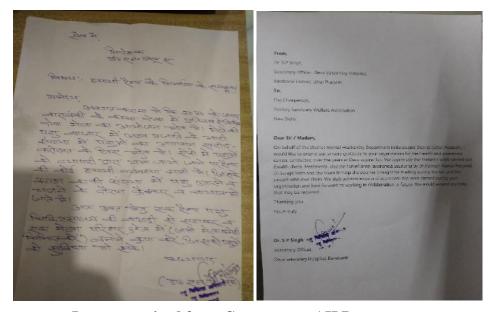








The meeting went well and the Vet In charge decided to give a request letter to DSWA to build permanent ramp just outside the Vet hospital premises and another near the fair organisers building premises. Please see below the request letter. The official also issued acknowledgemnt and appreciation letter to DSWA team for their work over the years in Deva equine fair.



Letters received from Government AH Department

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

DSWA is grateful to Donkey Sanctuary-United Kingdom for their support to organise the camp at Deva equine fair. DSWA would like to convey its thanks to Dr. S P Singh and other officials of Government Animal Husbandry Department and Deva fair organising committee and wishes to continue this partnership to improve the welfare of Equines brought for trading at Deva fair. Please find below the newspaper articles published in Rashtriya Sahara and Dainik Jhagran on the health camp.



