Animal Health Industry Response in Light of the Covid-19 Crisis

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HealthforAnimals
Global representatives of the animal health sector
- Manufacturers of veterinary pharmaceuticals, vaccines, diagnostics, and other animal health products around the globe

Corporate Members:
- Boehringer Ingelheim, Ceva, Elanco, IDEXX, Merck/MSD, Phibro, Vetoquinol, Virbac, Zenoaq, Zoetis

Association Members:
- 28 regional and national associations
- Operating across the globe
Unprecedented Crisis

'The food supply chain is breaking,'

*Dumped Milk, Smashed Eggs, Plowed Vegetables: Food Waste of the Pandemic*

**THE CORONAVIRUS CRISIS**

Global COVID-19 Deaths Surpass 400,000

*The COVID-19 crisis has already left too many children hungry in America*

World faces worst food crisis for at least 50 years, UN warns
Limiting the Spread

Goal: Protect our employees and limit spread of Covid-19 in our communities.

- Adopting/expanding telework
- Staggering work schedules
- Temperature checks
- Sanitizing stations in facilities
- Expanding communal spaces to enable distancing
- Strict biosecurity for outside service providers
- New protections for visits to any customers
Helping those in Need

Goal: use our manufacturing, research and knowledge to support those on the front-lines

- Allowing employees with medical backgrounds to take leave and join the fight
- Producing and donating sanitizers
- Donating masks and other PPE
- Supporting foodbanks and fighting food insecurity in local communities
- Financial donations to groups like Red Cross
- Assessing internal portfolios for potential treatments
Supporting Pet & the Livestock Sector

Goal: Help ensure veterinarians, farmers and pet owners can maintain healthy animals during crisis

- Secured ‘essential’ status for medicines AND veterinarians in major markets
- Strengthened supply chains (e.g. increasing stockpiles)
- Worked with governments to facilitate smooth import/export
- Daily contact with major customers

Result: To-date, there have been no veterinary medicine shortages reported in any major markets
Open Letter on Value of Animal Agriculture

Goal: Support our livestock partners in fighting unscientific attacks on animal ag

- Led development of an ‘Open Letter’ w/ partners
- Explained the importance of livestock during the crisis and eventual recovery
- Refuted activist myth that Covid-19 was somehow linked to animal ag
- Urged authorities to reaffirm livestock safety, refute information, and work with value chain

Results: 75+ signatories across public and private, including all major global livestock associations. Positive reaction from OIE, FAO, European Commission, etc.

Read Letter at: Medium.com/@LivestockLetter
The ‘New Normal’

- Covid-19 will be here for years
- Economic and social after-effects will be felt even after the virus is gone
- Consumers are now more aware of our relationship with animals and want to ensure safe food production and good animal health
- **Short-Term**: Continue to support our customers as they adapt to new consumer demands, socially distanced operations, etc.
Looking forward

- New tools to improve animal health
  - Fundamentals have not changed. More production is necessary with fewer resources

- One Health must take center stage
  - Better disease surveillance, including wildlife. More investment in animal health research basics

- Opportunity to improve consumer trust
  - Build on consumer interest in animal health; improve knowledge/understanding on sustainability, AB use, preventative care, etc.

Thank you

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