

Indigenous Technical Knowledge Used for Animals Treatment in Foothills of Nagaland

P.P.Rohilla, K.M.Bujarbaruah, G.Singh and M. Kumar
Animal Science Section, ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region,
Nagaland Centre, P.O., Medziphema, Jharnapani-797 106.

The primitive knowledge developed by our forefathers regarding treatment of human beings, plants and animals has been very economic and effective. These were developed after attaining a rich experience which is known as Indigenous technical knowledge (ITK). These ITKs have been proved very effective and beneficial, specially in remote areas of NEH Region. However, the use of these ITKs has been discouraged with the introduction of allopathic and homeopathic medicines.

Ten villages were surveyed for the ITKs being used for animals' treatment in and around foothills of Nagaland where Angami, Ao, Chakhesang, Sema, Rengma tribes inhabit. The information collected was summarised below :

Swine : Pig is preferred over other livestock and reared by majority of farmers in Nagaland due to non-vegetarian food habit. The major diversives and ITKs are as follows:

For the treatment of Swine fever :

- (a) About 8-10 g Ganja is mixed in pig ration for 2-3 doses and on 5th day the pig becomes normal.
- (b) Some farmers burn the beehive and mix with the feed in 2-3 doses. The animal recovers within 3 days.
- (c) About 150-200 ml liquor is mixed in pig ration 2 times (M&E) for 2 days. Pig recovers completely.
- (d) Tufala (local plant) is powdered and mixed in the ration for 2 days. Pig starts normal feeding.

Foot and mouth Disease: FMD is more prevalent in these areas.

- (a) Some farmers simply allow the animal to stand in muddy water to avoid flies and to check the infection
- (b) Potash and naphthalene balls are mixed and applied on the affected areas for 4-5 days continuously.
- (c) In some areas wounds are washed with salt water and raw egg is given orally for 2 days. This method due to effectiveness is very common among rural areas.

- (d) A paste is prepared with Naga onion which is applied on foot and mouth of animal for 3 days. After this treatment animal gets relief.

Diarrhoea :

- (a) Banana root with guava leaves is powdered and mixed with ration for 2 days (M&E)
- (b) About 10g Ganja is mixed in feed for 2 days and diarrhoea is checked effectively.
- (c) Maduram (local plant) leaves are boiled with tea leaves which is dried and powdered. The dose of which is given (50gm) twice daily for 2 days controls the red-dysentery in animals.
- (d) The garlic and guava leaves are powdered in equal proportion and is mixed in pig ration for 2 days.
- (e) The bark of Lapsu tree (local tree) is powdered and added to ration for 2 days.

Endoworms :

- (a) About 8 gm Ganja is mixed twice daily for 3 days in pig ration that removes all worm
- (b) The leaves of Phek tree (local) are cut into pieces and added to ration for 2 days.
- (c) Khupedi and Gappa (local) leaves are fed to animal for 2 days all worm come out.
- (d) Snail is fed as such to pigs, the practice is very common due to effectiveness.

Skin infection :

- (a) Naphthalene balls and potash are mixed in 2:4 ratio and applied all over body twice a day. The animal recovers completely within 2 days.
- (b) A paste of turmeric and mustard oil is prepared in a definite ratio which is applied on wounds. A rapid recovery has been noticed in animals due to this treatment.
- (c) Neem tree leaves are boiled in water and affected areas are washed, the paste of neem leaves is applied on wounds for 2 days for rapid recovery.
- (d) Alau (local plant) is powdered and paste is prepared which is applied over body 2 times for 3 days.

Cattle/Mithun/Buffalo : Buffaloes are not very common in NEH Region. Some farmers rear cattle and mithun for milk and meat purpose respectively while swamp buffaloes are kept for draught.

FMD : Treatment is same as under swine FMD.

Bloat : Distended rumen due to gas accumulation is also common in large animals.

- (a) Bobe (local plant) is grind and given orally to animal, within 15-20 min animal gets rid of bloat.
- (b) Some farmers mix lily flower and wild onion in a liquid form give orally twice daily. After 3 hrs of treatment animal feels comfortable.

- (c) A solution of black salt powder is given once a day. Accumulated gas in rumen is released quickly. Majority of farmers follow this practice for bloat treatment.
- (d) Sometimes one raw egg is given orally in bloat cases. This treatment is very effective and common for controlling bloat in animals.

Diarrhoea: Treatment is same as under swine.

Retained placenta :

- (a) Fresh bamboo leaves are fed to animal, within 5-6 hr the placenta is expelled.
- (b) Some farmers fed fresh sugarcane leaves, after 3-45 min the placenta is expelled.
- (c) Fresh broom grass leaves followed by boiled rice with water 3 times at 2 hr interval are given to animal. Retained placenta is expelled after 4 hr of this treatment.
- (d) Ficus spp mixed with subabul tree leaves in equal proportion are fed to animal, within 4 hr the placenta is expelled.

Ticks/Mites :

- (a) Dimoru (local plant) leaves are mixed in animal feed for 2 days which controls ectoparasites very effectively and widely used by several farmers.
- (b) DDT powder in low concentration is applied over the animal body very carefully. After 2 sprays animal gets rid of ticks/mites fully.
- (c) Tobacco leaves extract is applied over animal body, the action is very fast due to nicotine contents and ticks/mites are removed quickly.
- (d) The extract of Eucalyptus applied twice/day for 2 days also controls the ectoparasites.

Skin Infection: Treatment is same as under swine.

Endoworms: Treatment is same as under swine.

Poultry/Duck :

1. Ranikhet

- (a) Potash and liquor is mixed in equal ratio and fed to birds for 2 days only.
- (b) Naga onion pieces are mixed with mustard oil and fed to birds for 3 days
- (c) Ganja leaves and ginger are added in equal proportions in poultry feed for 3 days.
- (d) Red chillies and ginger are grind in mustard oil and mixed to feed for 2 days only.
- (e) Naga madhu (locally fermented rice) is mixed with broken rice and fed for 3 days.

Coccidiosis : Treatment is same as under swine.

Ticks/Mites : Treatment is same as under cattle/mithun/buffalo.

Endoworms : Treatment is same as under cattle/mithun/buffalo.

This is a preliminary information collected on different ITKs in rural areas of Nagaland. However more surveys are needed to document enormous ITKs available with the formers of NEH region.