4th regional Workshop on Dog Population Management for West Eurasia countries (SDWE4)

Azamat Umirkul

Chief Expert of the Veterinary Control and Supervision

Committee Country Report on national situation from 2021-2023 of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Marat Zhunussov

Head of the veterinary service of the city of Almaty



Tbilisi (Georgia) 26-28 September 2023



Organisation mondiale de la santé

Organización Mundial de Sanidad



I. Understanding the Situation in the Country

The Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On Responsible Treatment of Animals" (hereinafter referred as "the Law") regulates relationships in the field of animal treatment in order to safeguard their welfare, protect citizens' rights and other legitimate interests in the treatment of animals, as well as promote morality and adherence to humane standards in society.

The Law states that the fundamental tenet of legal regulation in the area of animal treatment is humane treatment of animals, with the welfare of both animals and humans as the criterion within the framework of generally accepted ethical values, treating them as beings capable of feeling pain. The Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan, "On Local Public Administration and Self-Government in the Republic of Kazakhstan," has expanded the competence of maslikhats of regions, cities of republican significance, and the capital to approve the rules for keeping and walking pets, trapping, temporary detention, and killing of animals.

The role of "trapping and destroying stray dogs and cats" has been changed in the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On Veterinary Medicine" to "trapping, temporary maintenance, and killing of animals," and the authority of local executive bodies has been increased.



According to the Law, trapping, temporary keeping, and killing of animals are carried out by the trapping service. Trapping, temporary keeping, and killing of animals can be carried out by individual entrepreneurs and non-state legal entities at the expense of budgetary funds.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE LAW PERMITS THE KILLING OF ANIMALS:

When **stopping animals' physical suffering** if no other way can be found

When regulating the number of wild animals and the production of hunting, fishing, and fisheries management in accordance with the procedure established by the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the field of protection, reproduction, and use of wildlife

When eliminating particularly dangerous and contagious animal diseases that endanger human and animal health in accordance with Kazakhstani veterinary legislation

When receiving non-viable newborn offspring of animals with obvious abnormalities and deformities

In case of an attack by an animal (animals) on a person, animals and (or) other cases when animals pose a threat to the life or health of a person, animals, as well as public order and safety

II. Control measures

To ensure veterinary safety, preventive measures such as rabies vaccinations and deworming are conducted for domestic animals and stray dogs and cats temporarily housed in shelters.

To date, rabies vaccinations have been administered to the following:

- 315 873 dogs;
- 60 835 cats;

deworming against echinococcosis was carried out:

- 444 781 carnivores (dogs).

According to local executive bodies of regions, cities of republican significance, and the capital, **3.3 million** dollars have been allocated from the local budget for trapping stray dogs and cats in 2023.

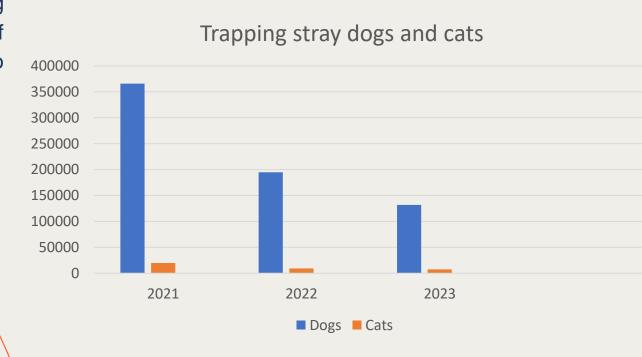
In the first 8 months of 2023, 131,807 dogs and 7,421 cats were caught. Of these, 104,092 dogs and 5,156 cats were killed.



III. Monitoring and evaluation

Various infectious and parasitic diseases are spread by stray dogs and cats. The number of stray dogs and cats is now rising from 2021 to 2023 in comparison to 2020, and the number of individuals impacted by stray dogs and cats is rising from 2022 to 2023 in comparison to 2021.

On the part of the Ministry, including inspectors from the territorial inspections of the Veterinary Control and Supervision Committee monitor local executive bodies to ensure the timely identification and capture of stray dogs and cats. They also conduct inspections of relevant territories to identify stray animals





IV. Measurement of

rabies

Since the beginning of 2022, according to the Ministry of Health, 9,018 complaints have been received with known cases of scratching, salivation and bites.

In order to ensure veterinary safety, veterinary preventive measures (vaccination) against rabies and deworming of domestic animals, as well as stray dogs and cats that are temporarily kept in shelters, are carried out. To date, 315,873 dogs and 60,835 cats have been against rabies, vaccinated and (dogs) 444,781 carnivores have dewormed been against echinococcosis.

In accordance with the Veterinary (veterinary and sanitary) Rules approved by the Order of the Minister of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated June 29, 2015 No. 7-1/587, in order to prevent animal diseases with rabies, individuals and legal entities (animal owners), regardless of ownership forms, carry out the following activities:

- 1) observe the rules of keeping animals and the rules of keeping and walking dogs and cats;
- 2) deliver dogs and cats belonging to them to veterinary medical and preventive organisations for clinical examination and preventive vaccinations with an anti-rabies vaccine;
- 3) restrict the admission of dogs not vaccinated against rabies to personal farmsteads, farms, herds, flocks, and herds;
- 4) take measures to prevent wild animals from entering herds, flocks, herds, economic entities, and other groups of animals;
- 5) in cases of biting of agricultural and domestic animals by wild predators, dogs, or cats, taking the necessary measures to isolate animals suspected of the disease or bitten;
- 6) provide timely vaccination against rabies and diagnosis of their animals. In addition, the Order of the Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated May 20, 2022 No. 171 (registered with the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Kazakhstan on May 23, 2022 No. 28155) approved the Rules for vaccination and sterilisation of stray animals.



In the Republic of Kazakhstan, 637,520 dogs and 118,220 cats are scheduled to be vaccinated against rabies in 2023.









Vaccination against rabies of wild carnivores



The rabies vaccine in blister baits for oral immunization of wild carnivores (hereinafter referred to as the vaccine) is made from a fixed cultural attenuated rabies virus strain "BGCM-V01" and is intended for preventive immunization of wild carnivores against rabies.

Anti-rabies vaccine in blister baits, packed in sterile blisters or sachets made of polyvinyl chloride film and aluminium foil by $(2,0\pm0,2)$ [cm]^3, which are placed in a blister bait. The anti-rabies vaccine in blister baits is used in the autumn-winter and winter-spring periods in unfavourable epizootic areas, and its samples are laid out or scattered in the habitats of wild carnivorous animals in an amount of 15-20 pieces or more per 1 [km ^ 2, depending on the epzootic intensity of the terrain and the density of wild animals.

The rabies vaccine in blister baits during 25–30 days of eating it by animals causes them to develop immunity to rabies, which persists for at least 12 months.





The record of vaccination of wild animals (on eating baits) is carried out by the determination of biomarkers of the tetracycline series in bone tissue slides of immunised animals, as well as the level of virus-neutralising antibodies in blood serum in the virus neutralisation reaction (VNR).

After the application of the vaccine, an act is drawn up indicating: the size of the treated areas; the number of samples used; the manufacturer; the number of series and the number of control; the date of manufacture (month, year) and expiration date; the position, name, surname, and patronymic of the specialist responsible for the vaccination; and, when spreading from an aeroplane, a GPS map of the area of distribution of the drug. A special topographic map of the area shall indicate the places of distribution of antirabic vaccine in blister baits.

Counting the eatability of antirabic vaccine in blister baits shall be carried out selectively in 3-5 days by the visual method after their distribution, with a survey report of the area drawn up.



V. Key actions of the country road map

In order to implement the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On Responsible Treatment of Animals", the Committee of Forestry and Wildlife of the Republic of Kazakhstan has developed a roadmap for the implementation of the basic norms of the Law with the assignment of responsibilities to the supervising deputy akims of local executive bodies of oblasts and cities of republican significance. At present, according to the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, there are 31 shelters in the country in approximately 5,830 places, including 5 public and 26 private. At the same time, the number of shelters does not cover all administrative-territorial units of oblasts (located in cities).

Local executive bodies of oblasts and cities of republican significance are working out the issues of budgeting for the construction of shelters for stray and neglected dogs and cats..





The inhabitants of our country have yet to master the culture of responsible keeping of companion animals. One of the humane ways to regulate the number of stray dogs and cats is through the castration and sterilisation of pets in the first place. Within the framework of the adopted law, the Catching Service carries out the vital task of implementing and overseeing these essential measures:

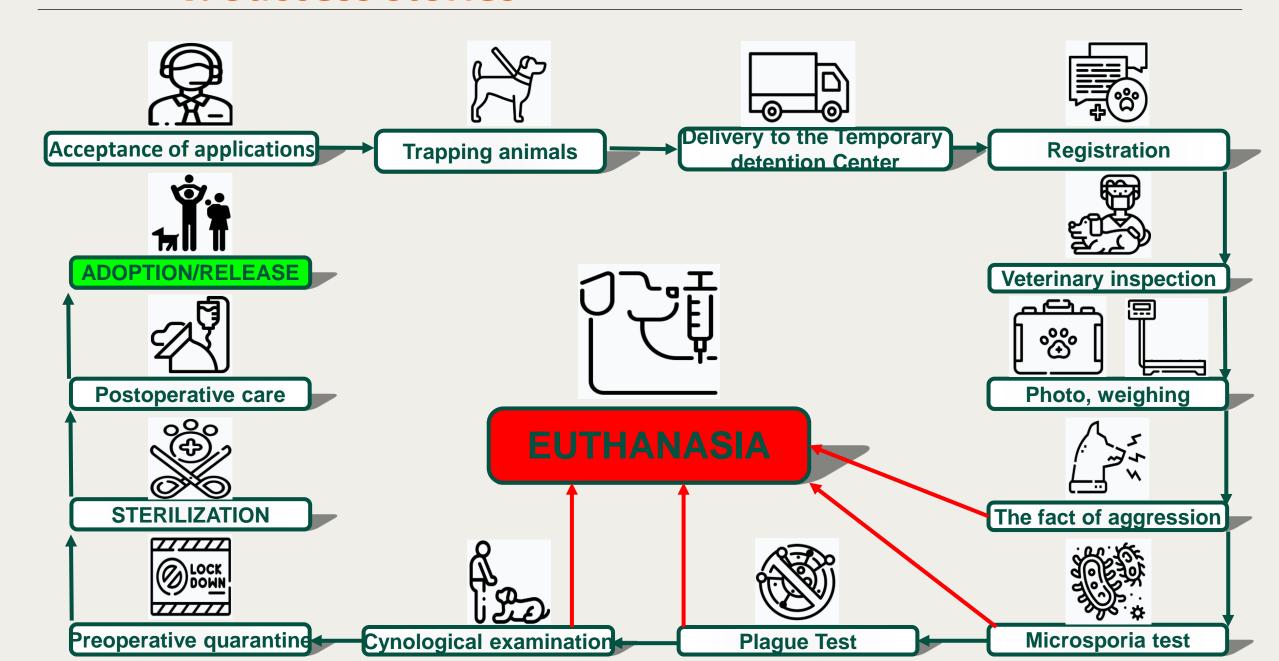
- capturing stray and homeless animals;
- delivering them to a temporary detention centre;
- conducting diagnostic and canine studies to identify sick and aggressive animals;
- vaccination;
- sterilization;
- transfer to third parties (adoption);
- release to habitats (for unclaimed animals).

The Trapping Service is dedicated to placing captured animals into new families. This endeavor is carried out in collaboration with interested animal protection organizations that actively cooperate with the Trapping Service. Concurrently, efforts have been intensified to educate the population on responsible treatment of animals, with the distribution of informative memos to residents and active engagement with zoo volunteers for the care and oversight of released stray and homeless animals.





V. Success stories





Thanks for your attention!

