

2008 Achievement

Subject of Project: Rabies Prevention in Taiwan

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Results:

1. Established and addressed a National Assessment Campaign, parameters for assessment were: extension, education, contingency plan and drill for rabies, rabies vaccination rates of pets.
2. Estimation of populations of household dog and stray dog.

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Surveys of dog populations in Taiwan from 1999 to 2009

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ABSTRACT

This study estimated the total number of household and stray dogs, and the turnover rate in shelters in Taiwan from 1999 to 2009. Since 1999, the number of household dogs was assessed every two years, and the number of stray dogs every 5 years. The turnover number of dogs in shelters was documented annually by the government. Household dog population survey was conducted by telephone interviews and for each survey, the valid sample size was greater than 9,600. In each survey of stray dogs, they were "captured and removed" using photographs in 56-74 areas, between the years of 1999 and 2009. The results indicated that the number of household dogs decreased significantly from 2,340,576 in 1999 to 1,565,156 in 2009. The number of stray dogs decreased from 613,959 in 1999 to 120,476 in 2004, and further decrease was minimal as only 86,244 were estimated in 2009. The number of dogs entering the shelters increased from 78,686 in 1999 to 127,023 in 2009. The number of dogs euthanatized increased from 70,231 in 1999 to 94,440 in 2009. Data of this study can serve as a reference to related studies on rabies control or dog population control.

(Key Words: Animal shelter, Dog population, Household dogs, Stray dogs, Taiwan)