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COMPARATIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROBLEM OF STRAINLESS ANIMALS IN UKRAINE AND THE USA

(ПОРІВНЯЛЬНА ХАРАКТЕРИСТИКА ПРОБЛЕМИ БЕЗДОМНИХ ТВАРИН В

УКРАЇНІ ТА США)

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Стаття описує утворення і існування тваринних зграй на вулиці і пов'язані з цим проблеми. Автор розкриває проблему безхатніх тварин і порівнює її зі штатами.

Ключові слова: екологія, бездомні тварини, притулки для бездомних тварин, екологічна проблема, поводження з тваринами.

The article describes the formation and existence of animal packs on the street and related problems. The author reveals the problem of stray animals and compares it with the States.

Key words: ecology, stray animals, shelters for stray animals, ecological problem, treatment of animals.

The level of distribution and condition of stray animals in Ukraine. Several years ago, the Washington Post researched the number of dogs and cats that live in 54 countries. Ukraine in this rating was in the top ten countries that lead in the number of stray animals. The study indicates that in Ukraine at the beginning of 2017, there were 7.5 million domestic cats, and this is the ninth indicator worldwide [5]. In Ukraine, as in many other European and non-European countries, crimes against animals, in particular, cruelty to animals, including murder, are reasonably attributed to crimes against public order and morality [1]. There is no nationwide official registration of homeless animals in Ukraine, which is why their exact number remains unknown. According to research conducted by Animal-id during 2016-2017, there were more than 46,000 stray animals in 24 settlements of Ukraine. According to some reports, there are about half a million stray dogs in Ukraine. The approximate number of stray cats is unknown. Even though the state allocates money to solve this problem in each specific locality (Kyiv - UAH 20 million, Kharkiv - UAH 18 million, Nikolaev - UAH 4.5 million, etc.), the streets are still filled with non-sterilized, not vaccinated dogs and cats, which cause inconvenience to residents of cities. The few shelters and charities scattered across the country can provide housing for only 20-30% of the animals. Keeping an average of 40 to 600 cats and dogs, shelters actually "survive" at their own expense, sponsors, or subsidies [3]. It is indicative that, according to the state epidemiological service, in cities that use the method sterilization-return, such as Kyiv, Odesa, Donetsk - the number of bites of the population by stray dogs is increasing and remains consistently high. In these cities, there are a high number of packs of stray dogs, aggression from animals, the spread of dangerous infectious diseases, noise, pollution of urban soil with excrement [4]. Such several homeless animals cannot be invisible and affect not only the welfare of animals but also the comfort of people living in settlements. On the one hand, stray animals have become part of urban ecosystems and reduce the number of rodents, and stray dogs are also used to guard certain yards, territories, or buildings. Also, these animals are often the cause of car accidents. So, according to zoologists, on the roads of Ukraine in densely populated areas, 3-5 dogs per day per 100 km of roads. Therefore, even though it was a person who caused the appearance of homeless animals, the attitude of people towards them in Ukraine is different [2].

The attitude of people towards homeless animals in Ukraine. In cities, some people are trying to help stray animals. They feed them and attach, collect funds for the sterilization of these animals to humanely regulate their number. Also, individual activists and animal rights activists make pressure or cooperate with the authorities to solve problems with the treatment of animals on the ground. In villages, fewer people pay attention to this issue, but stray animals are often attached to guard yards. So, in some villages, it is normal practice to kill animals that steal food, chickens, or cause other minor harm. Also, it is quite common for dogs that have bitten people to be killed, regardless of whether they are mad or not. Besides, dog hunters operate in Ukraine - persons who

hunt stray dogs to reduce their number. Such people are aggressive towards stray dogs because they consider them a threat to the life and safety of people, and a source of unsanitary conditions. For example, in preparation for Euro-2012 in Lviv, Kyiv, Kharkiv, stray animals were poisoned and killed en masse. In addition to dog hunters, some people kill stray animals with extreme cruelty. Dogs are wrapped around the muzzle with duct tape or duct tape, the animal is doomed to death in the throes of hunger and dehydration. There are times when paws are cut off or firecrackers are thrown at animals. Quite often, animals are poisoned with substances that cause especially severe suffering. Only a part in the mentioned cases can be saved, the rest die in agony [2].

The practice of dealing with homeless animals in Ukraine. Practically every method of regulating the number of homeless animals is used in Ukraine. However, only some of them are mandatory, while others are applied chaotically or are inhumane, which leaves the problem of a large number of stray animals and their protection from cruelty remains unresolved. 1) Animal registration is not carried out at the national level. Failure to register animals is a manifestation of the owner's irresponsibility. Until animals are registered throughout Ukraine, the increase in the number of stray animals will increase due to the impossibility of identifying the owners of lost, stray animals. 2) Sterilization is not a mandatory way of regulating the number of animals. 3) A small number of shelters. Ukraine has practically no municipal or private shelters. Therefore, after sterilization, the animals are returned to the place of capture. Some of the existing shelters are overcrowded, and their animals are locked in a small space, deprived of freedom, they lack contact with humans, which often leads to a violation of the psyche of animals. Existing shelters also often have funding problems. Also in Lviv, in 2017, the first animal adoption center was opened, through which a new home is sought for homeless animals. 4) Euthanasia of healthy animals. The killing of healthy animals is not euthanasia, since it provides for the end of suffering caused by incurable diseases or severe bodily injury. Therefore, euthanasia, which is allowed in Ukraine, contradicts the principles of humane treatment of animals and the protection of animals from cruelty. Euthanizing animals just to reduce their numbers can be compared to the death penalty. In Ukraine, it was canceled for people. 5) Uncontrolled breeding of domestic animals. There are no norms in the legislation of Ukraine that would regulate the procedure for breeding and regulating the offspring of dogs and cats. Therefore, owners are not limited in breeding animals and are not required to control the appearance of offspring. Therefore, it is not uncommon for newborn animals to be killed, or left on the streets, or thrown up to animal protection organizations, public utilities. This situation leads to an increase in the number of stray animals [2].

The prevalence and condition of stray animals in the USA. In the United States, about 70 thousand homeless animals are born every day, and their total number is over 70 million. But the number of stray animals that have become hereditary is usually less than in Ukraine. This is because

humane methods such as sterilization and adaptation of homeless animals are used to regulate their number [2]. The main normative act allowing to combat the growth of the number of homeless animals is the "Law on the sterilization of animals." This includes mandatory sterilization and vaccination, as well as several actions that must be performed when a stray dog or cat is caught. Some states sterilize all animals that are 4 months old. Animal cruelty in the United States is a felony and carries a fine (\$ 1,000 to \$ 150,000, aggravated) and jail time (1 to 10 years, aggravated). The law restricts the conduct of experiments and medical research on animals [4].

The attitude of people towards homeless animals in the USA. Thanks to huge fines, educational campaigns, and public activities of animal protection organizations, most Americans know very well how to behave with an animal and why it is a crime to throw out a dog before leaving for summer holidays [3]. To avoid an increase in the number of stray dogs, mandatory rules for walking dogs are introduced, the implementation of which significantly reduces the number of escaped animals. For example, the Carrie Dog Walking Regulations require all dogs and cats to be on a leash when outside their owner's property. Also, by the rules on urban zoning, no more than 3-4 dogs are allowed in one household. If the owner wants to keep a larger number of dogs, then he must already register the kennel and receive a special license for the right to keep the kennel. Penalties are applied along with preventive measures. So, in the city of Toronto (Canada), a fine of \$ 240 is levied for a dog not registered on time. In case of non-payment of the fine, the owner is summoned to court, and, according to the law, the maximum fine can reach 5 thousand dollars [6].

The practice of treating stray animals in the United States. 1) License for breeding animals. So that newborn animals do not end up on the street, and the owners of the animals are responsible for the offspring and its future fate, it is allowed to breed animals only with a special license. Introduction of a tax on pets. Owners who keep animals must pay taxes monthly. The funds received from the payment of taxes are directed to the maintenance of shelters, to the creation and care of places for walking animals, and the like. However, filling the budget is not the only purpose of the tax. Those who have adopted an animal from a shelter are exempted from paying it, which in turn leads to a decrease in the number of homeless animals. 2) Registration and identification of animals. It quite often happens that lost animals, abandoned by their owners, end up on the streets. To prevent cases of abandonment of animals, as well as to quickly establish the owner and origin of animals, the latter are registered in veterinary clinics and shelters by veterinarians, students of veterinary surgery, and other specially trained persons. During registration, information about the age, sex, breed, name of the animal, information about its owner, about the sterilization and injection performed, as well as the identification number is entered into the electronic database. 3) Premises in shelters and devices for homeless animals. Caught stray animals are placed in shelters. In shelters, animals are provided with veterinary care and their owners are looking for it. Also, the

captured animals are recorded and spayed. If owners cannot be found, new animals are looked for. For example, approximately 6.5 million cats and dogs enter US shelters every year, 3 million of which are found new homes, and more than 700,000 of which are returned to their owners [2]. Euthanasia (euthanasia) is seen as an inevitable measure, as shelters running municipal programs the so-called "unlimited shelters" - must provide sufficient capacity and be always ready to welcome new animals. The largest animal protection organizations (World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA); HSUS and PETA in the USA) believe that it is more humane to euthanize an animal than to leave it to its own devices on the street and doom it to early and cruel death [6]. 4) Sterilization of animals. Sterilization of animals consists of the surgical deprivation of the ability to reproduce. According to separate studies, one non-sterilized female dog and her offspring can give life to 67 thousand dogs, and a cat and her kittens - 420 thousand cats over seven years. The method of sterilization is considered more humane compared to the euthanasia of adult and newborn animals and allows to prevent an increase in the number of animals through reproduction. An interesting fact is that to prevent an increase in the number of homeless animals, compulsory sterilization is also carried out on pet animals. The chip is injected under the skin of the animal by painless injection in places that prevent movement of the chip along the body of the animal, for example, between the shoulder blades. With the help of special devices, attached to the place where the chip is inserted, you can get data about the animal, its owner, and the like. In certain states of the United States, all animals that are transferred into the property from shelters must be spayed [2].

Conclusions. Compared to the USA, animals in Ukraine are not sufficiently protected at the legislative level. In the USA, the problem with animals is solved humanely, and not by killing. You also have to pay taxes for the maintenance of the animal, and the owner will have to pay a large fine for driving the animal onto the street. There is no uniform policy for working with animals in Ukraine. There are no rules for registration, vaccination, and sterilization. There are about 40 shelters in Ukraine, but, unfortunately, most shelters are capable of keeping only a few dozen animals, and it is rather difficult to open a shelter in Ukraine. The problem of increasing the number of homeless animals in Ukraine remains relevant and needs to be addressed. Ukraine also has extensive experience in solving problems associated with the presence of a large number of stray animals on the streets. However, the measures taken in Ukraine are not sufficient, and the proof of this is that the number of stray animals that are on the streets remains large. Leaving this problem unresolved, Ukraine puts up with brutality and chooses to kill rather than defend.

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AREAS OF DRONE USE IN AGRICULTURE

(ОБЛАСТІ ВИКОРИСТАННЯ ДРОНІВ У СІЛЬСЬКОМУ ГОСПОДАРСТВІ)

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У статті подана інформація про використання дронів в сільському господарстві для швидкого та точного ручного збору та передачі інформації в реальному часі, для швидкого прийняття управлінських рішень, що значно полегшує та максимально мінімізує використання живої людської праці.

Ключові слова: агропромисловий комплекс, системи точного землеробства, дрони, аерофотозйомка, безпілотні літальні апарати, моніторинг.

The article provides information on the use of drones in agriculture for fast and accurate manual collection and transmission of information in real time, for rapid management decisions, which greatly facilitates and minimizes the use of human labor.

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