

13 March 2025 (Canberra)

## Animal Medicines Australia Advocates for Responsible Parasite Management Ahead of World Parasite Awareness Day

Every day, many pets face an often-invisible risk – parasites. Fleas, ticks, worms and other parasites don't just make animals uncomfortable; they can lead to serious illness and even life-threatening conditions if left untreated. Furthermore, some parasites and the diseases they cause can spread to humans, putting pet owners at risk.

That's why Animal Medicines Australia (AMA), along with veterinary experts, parasite councils, researchers, the animal health sector and others have come together to launch [World Parasite Awareness Day](#), an annual event held on March 20th dedicated to raising awareness and fighting back against this preventable threat.

We recognise that the world is changing. As the climate shifts, travel increases and animals move more freely, parasites can spread to new areas, putting pets and people at risk if left unprotected.

Executive Director at AMA, Mr Ben Stapley, stated the importance of the day, "World Parasite Awareness Day is an important reminder of the vital role parasite prevention and treatment play in protecting the health and welfare of animals. Parasites can cause serious diseases in pets, livestock, and wildlife, impacting not only their well-being but also Australia's agricultural productivity and biosecurity. Animal Medicines Australia advocates for responsible parasite management and the use of effective, science-based treatments to safeguard our animals and communities."

This is why, on 20 March 2025 – the 1st World Parasite Awareness Day – we want to remind pet owners and others that while parasites are a risk to pets and people, they can be controlled, and disease risk minimised. While strategies will be different across the world, they can all involve:

- **Working with a veterinarian** to understand your pet's risks and how to best control parasites.
- **Understanding the types of parasites in your area** to ensure your control strategies are effective.

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**Animal Medicines Australia** is the peak body that represents the leaders of the animal health industry in Australia. Our member companies are responsible for a range of veterinary medicine products that prevent, control and cure disease across the companion animal and livestock sectors.

- **Adopting best practices** like good hygiene when cleaning up pet waste.
- **Having a protection plan** tailored to your animal's needs and ensuring it remains effective.

Protecting our pets from parasites isn't just about their well-being, it's about protecting our own health, our families, and the deep, replaceable bond we share with the animals who trust us. By staying informed and proactive, we can reduce the risks, protect our pets, and safeguard public health.

We invite everyone to join us on this mission and stand up for the health of pets everywhere. Talk to your local veterinarian to understand which parasites are in your area and share the website to help spread the word on 20 March. When we protect our pets, we protect ourselves.

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