

20 March 2026 (Canberra)

## Prevention First: AMA Urges Australians to Act on World Parasite Awareness Day

On 20 March each year, the world marks World Parasite Awareness Day. It is a moment to recognise that pets and production animals around the globe face a persistent, but often invisible, risk: parasites. To mark World Parasite Awareness Day 2026, Animal Medicines Australia (AMA) along with the global animal health industry, has come together to support a global Prevention Pledge, affirming our shared commitment to parasite prevention as a cornerstone of pet care. We recognise that preventing parasite infections is an essential way to protect animal health and help reduce risks to people.

Fleas, ticks, worms, and other parasites can cause discomfort, serious illness, and in some cases life-threatening disease. Some parasites and the infections they carry can also spread to people, putting entire households at risk. Left untreated, parasites can impact human health, with effective parasite management essential for a healthy future.

“World Parasite Awareness Day is an opportunity to highlight the importance of responsible parasite control, ensuring that animals receive the necessary treatments to stay healthy,” said AMA CEO Mr Ben Stapley. “By working together, veterinarians, pet owners, and livestock producers can help protect the health and welfare of animals under our care.”

The Australian animal health industry, including members of Animal Medicines Australia, continues to invest in research and innovation, developing advanced parasite treatments that improve animal welfare and productivity. AMA encourages pet owners and farmers to consult their veterinarians and animal health professionals to implement effective parasite management plans tailored to their specific needs.

“Prevention is always better than cure,” Mr Stapley added. “By staying informed and proactive, we can protect the animals we care for and ensure they lead healthier, happier lives.”

For more information about World Parasite Awareness Day, visit [www.parasiteawarenessday.com](http://www.parasiteawarenessday.com).

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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.



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For media inquiries, please contact:

Dr. Katie Asplin, Director – Animal Health Policy and Engagement  
Tel: +61 2 6257 9022

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**Animal Medicines Australia**  
ABN 76 116 848 344 / ACN 116 848 34  
18 National Circuit  
Barton ACT 2600, Australia



**T** +61 2 6257 9022  
**E** [enquiries@animalmedicines.org.au](mailto:enquiries@animalmedicines.org.au)  
**W** [animalmedicines.org.au](http://animalmedicines.org.au)



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