Francis Hunter

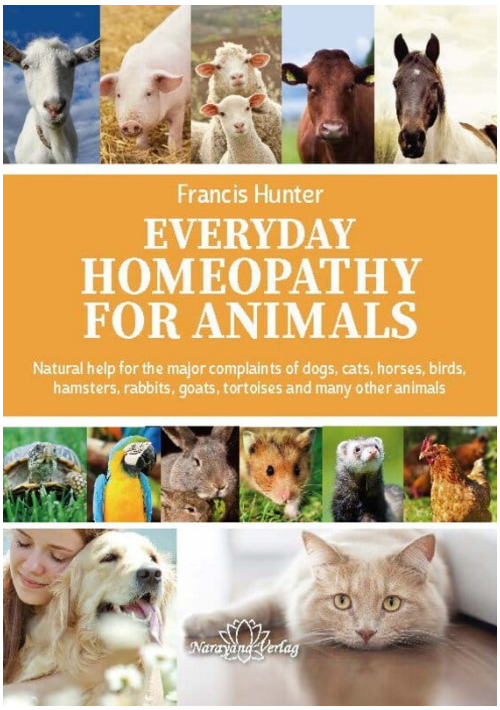
Everyday Homeopathy for Animals

Sample text

Everyday Homeopathy for Animals

from Francis Hunter

editor: Beaconsfield



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Preface

I have had three main reasons for writing this book. The first is that a book I published some years ago, entitled *Before the Vet Calls*, is now out of print. (It was renamed in later editions *Homeopathic First Aid Treatment for Pets* for the American market, because the word 'vet' there refers to a veteran of their armed forces.) It was relatively short and written to satisfy a perceived demand for a basic introduction to homeopathy for the care of pet animals.

It now seems appropriate to produce this more comprehensive work to meet the needs of the increasing number of people who are interested in complementary therapies, and who are also much more widely informed on the potentially beneficial role of homeopathic medicine both for themselves and their animals.

The first major section covers the general problems that are common to all species, beginning with an initial section in flowchart form on accidents and emergencies. The greater scope of this new book has allowed me to provide information outlining the principal diseases and conditions specific to the different animals that are included. These sections are quite concise and indicate the various options available to treat the given condition, including references back to the general part of the text wherever relevant.

My second reason is to point out to the owner of an animal not only the benefits but also the limitations of homeopathic treatment, or for that matter of any other form of complementary treatment. It is a great mistake to embark on the treatment of an animal without sufficient knowledge of the intricate make-up of the animal as a patient, and without the training and expertise to be able to instigate the correct treatment. The average person would not even contemplate the idea of inserting acupuncture needles into an animal, and the argument holds equally well against giving a homeopathic remedy without the experience to do so. I have attempted to point out to the reader when it is appropriate to treat an animal oneself and when it is necessary to seek veterinary advice.

The third reason is that I have greatly admired the book *Everyday Homeopathy* by the late Dr David Gemmell. In addition to being an experienced and sympathetic general practitioner, Dr Gemmell was also the medical registrar at the Royal London Homeopathic Hospital for a number of years. He was a first-class

teacher, and I had the pleasure of being one of his students when I was studying homeopathy at the Faculty of Homeopathy in the early eighties. In his book, which he wrote for use within the family and among friends, he had the novel idea of describing a disease or condition on the left-hand page, and then on the facing right-hand page matching the different symptoms with the most appropriate remedy. This makes it simple and straightforward for the reader to be directed to the remedy most likely to be helpful, and I am very grateful to Mrs Irma Gemmell for permitting me to adopt this layout as fully as possible in the present book.

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Aconite, Apis mellifica, Argentum nitricum, Arnica, Arsenicum Album, Belladonna, Bryonia, Cantharis, Carbo vegetabilis, Causticum, Colocynthis, Euphrasia, Gelsemium, Hepar Sulphuris, Hypericum, Lycopodium,

Mercurius Solubilis, Natrum Muriaticum, Nux Vomica, Phosphorus, Pulsatilla, Pyrogen, Rhus Toxicodendron, Ruta, Silica, Sulphur, Symphytum, Thuja, Urtica Urens

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Actaea racemosa, Agaricus muscarius, Allum cepa, Aloe socotrina, Antimonium crudum, Antimonium tartaricum, Baptisia, Baryta carbonia, Berberis vulgaris, Borax, Bufo, Calcarea carbonica, Calcarea fluorica, Calcarea phosphorica, Caulophyllum, Chamomilla, Chelidonium majus, China (Cinchona), Cimicifuga racemosa, Cocculus, Colchicum autumnale, Conium maculatum, Crataegus, Croton tiglium, Drosera, Dulcamara, Echinacea, Ferrum metallicum, Ferrum phosphoricum, Flor de piedra, Graphiptes, Hamamelis, Ignatia, Ipecacuanha, Kali bichromicum, Kreosotum, Lachesis, Ledum, Magnesium phosphoricum, Mercurius corrosivus, Petroleum, Phosphoric acid, Phytolacca, Podophyllum, Psorinum, Ruta graveolens, Sabina, Scutellaria, Sepia, Spongia tosta, Staphysagria, Veratrum album

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Accidents, Emergencies and First Aid

ANIMAL BITES

The canine or eye teeth of animals who bite when they attack or defend themselves are very sharp and pointed. They can cause deep puncture wounds which may appear to heal quickly, but because the teeth carry bacteria on their surface, infection may develop beneath the scab causing heat, swelling and pain.

- Lacerated, large wounds; deep, painful wounds. Immediate veterinary attention necessary.
- Small bites. Use remedies, but seek advice if infection seems to be present.
- Horses. If in doubt consult a vet.

By Mouth

If the fight has just occurred and there is shock associated with the bites.	**Aconite 30c.** Dose every 15–30 minutes up to 4–6 times as required.
This remedy follows Aconite well, or may be used from the outset if little or no shock is apparent.	**Arnica 30c.** Dose every 1–2 hours up to four doses, then 3–4 times daily for a few days until improved. Arnica is indicated and helpful whenever there is tissue damage, inflammation or bruising.
If pain is evident. The signs of pain may be loss of appetite, restlessness, dullness, panting, or constantly licking or gnawing at the affected place.	**Hypericum 30c.** Dose 3–4 times daily for 2–4 days until improved.
These two remedies help to reduce infection and promote healing.	**Calendula 6c** and **Ledum 6c.** Dose every fifteen minutes for an hour and then 3–4 times daily for 3–5 days.

ANIMAL BITES (continued)

Application to the Wound

To cleanse the wound, apply **Calendula lotion** 3–4 times daily as necessary. To promote healing when the wound appears to be clean, use **Hypericum/ Calendula Cream**. Apply 2–3 times daily until healed.

BLEEDING
(Haemorrhage)

The loss of some blood after any accident or injury is natural and helps to cleanse the wound, but it should not continue for too long. A trickle of blood for 5–10 minutes is acceptable but by the end of this time the blood should have begun to form a clot. Such bleeding will be from small blood vessels and is of little consequence. Bleeding from larger vessels is much more serious and professional help should be sought immediately. Such blood may be coming from an artery or a vein.

The blood in the arteries contains oxygen and is bright red in colour. It tends to be pumped out as the heart and pulse beat. The blood from veins is being returned to the heart from the tissues and has given up its oxygen. This blood is a dark red or wine colour and tends to flow rather than pump from the injury. If the bleeding appears severe it is probably coming from a major vessel. In such a case pressure should be applied to stop excessive blood loss while help is summoned. It may simply be a pressure pad or bandage; in the case of a limb, a cord fitted tightly round above the wound (a tourniquet) will help to stop the bleeding if an artery has been damaged.

- Blood oozing or trickling. Use remedies, but seek advice if bleeding persists.
- Pumping, bright, red blood. Flowing dark, red blood. Immediate veterinary attention necessary.

BLEEDING

For shock.	**Aconite 30c.** Start immediately and dose every 15–30 minutes for up to 4 doses.
Use if bleeding due to an injury, or if bleeding has occurred previously and is only slight. Useful for bleeding from the tips of the ears or from the end of the tail, or any other small wound. that cannot easily be bandaged.	**Arnica 30c.** Dose every 4 hours for 1–3 days as required.
For dark, unclotted, persistent, but not copious bleeding.	**Hamamelis 6c** or **30c.** Dose 3 times daily for 3–5 days.
Use when the animal is weak after bleeding a lot.	**China Officinalis 30c.** Dose every 4 hours for 1–2 days.
For bright, red persistent bleeding.	**Ipecacuanha 30c.** Dose every 30–60 minutes up to four doses, then 3–4 times daily for a day or two if necessary.
For superficial and slight haemorrhages, especially those that tend to recur but are not serious (e.g. slight nosebleeds).	**Phosphorus 6c.** Dose every 30–60 minutes up to four doses, then 3–4 times daily for a day or two if necessary.

General Index

Advice to the reader. Some symptoms are so common that the index can be of only limited use, unless the page number refers to a chapter. Common symptoms include: biting or scratching itself, diarrhoea and vomiting, dullness, rubbing, shock, temperature. The search for a remedy may go faster if you can also find a less common symptom.

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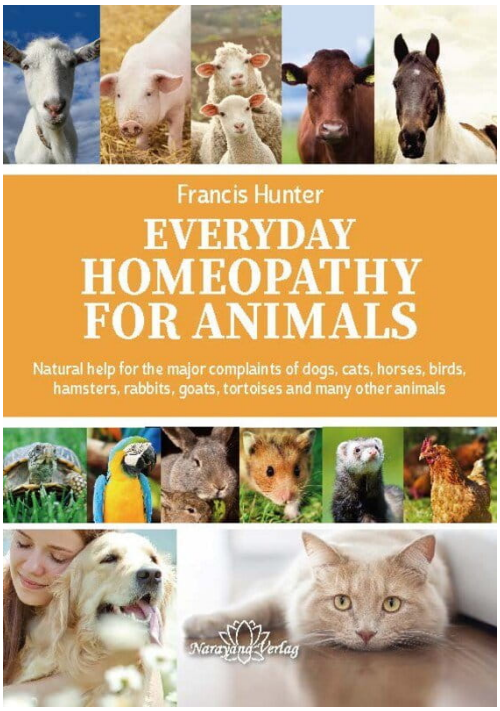

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