

# FLORA FAUNA NEWS

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## Moisture and More Moisture

By Brian Kanke  
Chairman of Zoo Pharma Dynamics

Rain is a blessing to plants but in the long run hazardous to animals. How could this be? The rain provides forage and hydration. The rain also promotes insects and bacteria. The sun is the best friend to a livestock farmer. The sun keep viruses, bacteria and bugs away. We all know that minimal amounts of bacteria can naturally enhance the immune system. A healthy animal can fight off most infections if they are given the best playing field available.

The playing field is a direct reflection of the owners and their commitment to healthy happy animals. Animals are equipped for the sun more so than rain. As a farmer I can keep the animals in shade and provide plenty of water. It is very difficult for me to keep insects and bacteria away as a result from moist conditions. Moisture has the ability to spread everything around including bacteria making all the animals susceptible to infection.

Keeping the playing field as dry as possible is very important. You never want standing water in the pens which is a breeding ground for everything bad. Believe me the animal will bypass the shiny clean water trough for that nasty puddle of water. Make sure you have fast drainage in the pens. Remove wet feed as soon as possible. The flies will be wreaking havoc on the moist feed which will lead to wormy animals. Use hydrated lyme to help the ground from going rancid. Move the feed troughs around to different locations in the pens and treat the last spot with hydrated lyme. Keep Alfalfa from building up on the ground. Alfalfa, dirt and moisture make a nasty combination. Housekeeping is your best friend in the pens when dealing with an abundance of moisture.

We all need rain and it is a form of bath for an animal. We just need to make sure to do our due diligence to have the best possible playing field.

We hope you will enjoy our newsletter as we enjoy putting it together. We want you to find it informative and entertaining. If you have a topic or a question you would like addressed in the next newsletter please email us. We always appreciate pictures of the funny things animals will do. God Bless and Keep Animals Happy and Healthy!

### Fun Facts



- Deer have no gall bladders
- A newborn Chinese water deer is so small it can almost be held in the palm of the hand
- In Alaska it is illegal to whisper in someone's ear while they're moose hunting
- Adult bison are the largest land mammals in North America



### CONTACT US

800 ISOM RD  
SUITE 106  
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78216  
212.328.9484  
media@zoopharmadynamics.