

Study on Grooming of Animals

Definition of grooming

Grooming is the process of rubbing the external covering of the body of animals so as to remove external waste products of the skin and to stimulate the circulation of blood and lymph.

Objects of grooming

1. To remove the external waste products (skin secretion, scurf and loose hairs, vegetative matter etc.)
2. To remove the external parasite (ticks, lice, mites etc.)
3. To increase the circulation of blood and lymph.
4. To prepare animal for show.
5. To produce quality milk.
6. To produce healthy skin.
7. To prevent from "hair ball" diseases which is formed after licking of the loose hairs into the rumen.

Tools required for grooming

1. Dandy brush.
2. Body brush.
3. Wisp.
4. Hoof picker.
5. Curry comb.
6. Cloth and sponge.

Steps of grooming

- # Firstly dandy brush and then body brush should be used according to flow of hair.
- # Currycomb is used to clean brush.
- # If there is no brush then we can use straw wisp.
- # Hoof picker is used to clean the divided points of hoof.
- # Cloth or sponge is used to clean udder, muzzle etc.

Grooming of dairy cow

It is necessary to groom of dairy cows two hours before milking to prevent contamination of acid forming bacteria and other waste material. However cows are regularly groomed before milking so that no dust can fall in milk. Hindquarter and udder region must be groomed.

Time of grooming

1. Horse: 6 A.M. to 10 A.M. every day.
2. Cattle: 7 A.M. (occasionally).
3. Dairy cow: 2 hours before milking.
4. Bullock: Before and after working.
5. Sheep, Goat and Pig: They are not groomed, except showing purpose.