

E –RESOURCES IN VETERINARY LIBRARY & INFORMATION CENTRE: A ROADMAP TO MEET EMERGING CHALLENGES IN 21ST CENTURY

S.P.Nimbhorkar

Librarian
G.S.G College
Umarched, Dist . Yavatmal (MS) India

ABSTRACT :

The veterinary education occupies a pivotal position in providing nutritional security, health and livelihood security to millions of rural poor through providing better animal production and veterinary health care activities. The times are changing and therefore requirement and environment of veterinary professional is also changing. The ongoing changing process has made environment highly competitive and complex. The impact of the internet and digital product on veterinary library is noteworthy. Amazing growth of electronic resources changed the extension activity dynamically and effectively. The application of e-resources has completely transformed the outlook of traditional veterinary education, research and extension in to modern one. This paper is an attempt to highlight, in a nutshell, how library profession can gear up to take up the challenge of the new millennium to provide need based library services to the veterinarian to elevate their performance. Present rapid development in the field of library and recent innovation in communication technology witnessed a changing emphasis in the role of librarian. This changing emphasis necessitates the Librarian to be exposed to new technologies

INTRODUCTION:

If India is to flourish and achieve the status of a developed nation, it must concentrate on technology based Agri and Animal production. To accomplish the desired development sphere, focus on technology

invention and extension is indispensable. It is well-known fact that there is still a wide scope for Agri and livestock development. Nevertheless, the gap / vacuum between the rural and urban scenario is to be bridged. In view of Indian population, today nothing can be more important than the production of food. The animal husbandry and fisheries have pivotal role in the production of protein oriented food. Income from the livestock i.e. milk, meat, eggs. fish. sale of animals by products etc. has a substantial share in the development of our country's economy. To enhance the income from livestock resources continuous technology invention and research is needed. To dissemination of technology invented by the scientist a strong and effective extension programme is required. This has been a question that, how to provide precise and pin pointed information pertaining to veterinary and animal science in short time to the veterinary professionals. **The answer is very obvious- "Veterinary Library and Information Centre".**

The veterinary library supports research, education, publication and extension programme veterinary library also plays an important role in distance education, adult and farmers education and lifelong education. It serves veterinary students, academician, administrator and researchers. **Veterinary Library:**

The veterinary library is different from the libraries at traditional institutes. Veterinary library is the storehouse of the knowledge, the veterinary library has been paying its valuable contribution in veterinary education, research and extension activities. Veterinary library is an indispensable part of veterinary education and devoted towards intellectual upliftment of every individual through continuous informal and lifelong education. Internet has revolutionized the concept of veterinary library from boundaries to borderless, storage to access, traditional to global, paper based to paperless and physical to virtual library. Modern libraries at veterinary institutes perform user specific functions in context of automation, computerization, instant retrieval, prompt dissemination and online feedback. ICT (Information and Communication Technology) has become an important part of modern veterinary libraries in order to keep up with the current information need. Lili (2006) has pointed out that Web technology is being used more in day to day library functions and is also useful for the dissemination of the information products on the net.

The web-based services are grouped in to publishers, database developers, institutional web, libraries on the net and users who search information independently. The services like Web based digital services. Web 2.0 based services (Lib 2.0) etc (Wikis, blog, RSS, EM, Social networking etc). But, these services will remain unused unless the veterinary students are trained by the Librarian and Information expert to use these IT based services.

Importance of Electronic Resources Provided by Veterinary Library & Information Centre:-

In view of acceptance of reviewed veterinary council syllabus by the veterinary colleges in India, much information of various topics have been restmctured resulted in to full information either scattered or not available I a single text book which cater the need of UG, PG and Ph.D students of veterinary and animal science comprehensively, keeping this in view the veterinarian should be provided with various services

like e-databases, e-journals, e-books, general web sources, open archive, e-prints etc.

ICT based library services. New technology is very fast and accurate and has brought varied changes in veterinary library. Technology just like, video-conferencing, broadband, wi-fi, mobile telephony all contributing to increasing of speed and availability of direct internet communication.

e-databases : The various e-databases provided by the veterinary libraries are very crucial and helpful in the research and extension work. The veterinary extension worker has to create environment or situation in which fanners and livestock owner could learn to imbibe 'the technology invented by the researchers.

e- journals : It is very frustrating to see that even in 21st century due to lack of awareness towards vaccination and because superstition the valuable livestock is dying because of various disease like foot and mouth disease, rinderpest, anthrax, hemorrhagic septicemia, black quarter and tuberculosis etc. the veterinary scientist has to take uninterrupted efforts to elevate the research to control and treat the diseases which can take a heavy toll, for the research work the research needs information e-journals provided by the library can be conducive to the researcher to retrieve the information.

e-books : The various e-books have become inevitable component part of veterinary library. In India no veterinary university is self-sufficient as far as the collection of books and journals are concerned. Hence, resource sharing has become one of the important aspects.

General uses and advantages of e-resources:

Libraries of all sizes and types are embracing digital collection, although most libraries will continue to offer both print and digital collection for many years to come.

Impact of e-resources: e-resources have an impact on library visit, reference services and circulation.

Library visits: The livestock development officers and other veterinary professionals are working in the villages and rendering their valuable services must get acquainted with the modern surgery and medicine practice. Hence by using e-resources they can have access to the information. E-resources are available over internet and intranet. The personal visits to libraries are no more required. Instead, user may use and visit library over their laptops, notebooks or on desktops. The impact of information technology and online information resources on frequency of library visits declines and remote use increases.

Reference Services:

The veterinary PG and Ph.D. students require various information while completion of their thesis or research works. The modern reference services can expedite their research work.

CONCLUSION

By using modern technology the user can get the information rapidly. Before offering the suggestion about technology the extension worker must understand the present requirement of farmer. By using various e-resources provided by the veterinary library the extension worker can study the technology which is available in India as well as at abroad and this is how he can explore the possibilities for improvement. The basic role of the library professional is to match the information seekers with information resources and get the desired information for the user. Information Technology assists the veterinarian to serve better to farmer's community by performing various research and extension activities. The veterinarian must imbibe the IT skills to seek more up to date information in the field of agriculture and animal husbandry. The veterinary students should have at least one lecture in every week in first semester of the degree course on services offered by library and information center of the university, this will make them able to avail the library services based on IT.

There is long way to go, to conclude with, can say vet. library in its broadest sense remains the most important component of the veterinary education, research and extension. Indeed, its contribution to the veterinary profession is recognized. Library and Information center remains and will remain the foremost source of information in the veterinary profession. As the Library is a pan of veterinary education, it can be said that improvement of vety. library means the improvement of education, research and extension,

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