



Role of Water and Factors Affecting Water Requirements in Farm Animals

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Role of water in farm animals

- As a major factor in body temperature regulation.
- All the biochemical reactions require water.
- It acts as a medium for hydrolysis of nutrients in the system.
- It provides rigidity, fluidity and elasticity.
- It serves as lubrication fluid in synovial cavity.
- It serves as carrier of digestive juices, enzymes.
- Medium for various solutions like blood, fluids and secretions.

Factors affecting water requirements in farm animals

- Physiological status of animals

Young calves consume more water same as pregnant and lactating animals.

- Ambient temperature, relative humidity, wind velocity, rainfall
- Dry matter intake.
- Composition of feed

Feed with high level of salt, fibres, protein increase water requirement.

- Variation of species.
- Frequency of watering animal.
- Diurnal and seasonal variation.