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Resources for a Mixed Animal Mindset

Many veterinary schools promote the saying “real doctors treat more than 1 species.” The truth, as many of you already know, is that many veterinarians upon graduation do find their niche in 1 to 2 species. But you, my friends, have truly embraced this saying as a career motto as you move between a variety of species—from dogs to pigs to horses—all within a singular day or sometimes even hour.

While some of us entered the realm of mixed animal practice intentionally, others have simply responded to an increasing need for care as some of these animals take on pet roles in areas where fewer veterinarians exist. Although the variety can be invigorating (speaking as someone who enjoys the mix), I recognize the unique challenges of mixed animal practice.

We hope this issue speaks to you and helps you overcome those challenges as it addresses ideas for [maximizing the use of veterinary nurses/technicians](#) (p. 4) and brings practical educational resources on issues many of these species frequently face, all in an easy-to-reference issue.

We have gathered experts in their respective fields to bring together advice for the [vomiting potbellied pig](#) (p. 10), [treatment of the blocked goat](#) (p. 38) and the [goat with neurologic signs](#) (p. 16), and [pain management options for equine patients](#) (p. 26). Whether you are a veteran in mixed animal practice or someone considering expanding the species that you or your practice sees, we hope that this issue brings you applicable tips and tools that you can use or consider.



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