

Lethal Gift of Livestock Summary

The main causes of today's diseases have been because of or directly related to animals and rodents. One of the most devastating ways that diseases can spread is through an epidemic, which is basically a widespread disease that is very contagious. The main reason epidemics are able to spread is because of population because lots of people gives the disease lots of hosts to infect. The major diseases/ epidemics that have killed thousands have been: Smallpox, Flu, Tuberculosis, Malaria, Plague, Measles, and Cholera.

All these diseases have come from some sort of contact with animals or because of a carrier that used the animals as a carrier (i.e. fleas on rats, dogs, etc.). Explain

Epidemics were first able to develop because of growing populations and terrible sanitation. Constant immigration of farmers from the countryside to the cities were the reason for the death of many. The other main reason was worldwide exporting and importing of goods which allowed the travel of diseases from country to country (i.e. smallpox in Rome, called the Plague of Antoninus). The reason that diseases didn't develop in any hunter-gatherer communities is that the societies were not as connected as Europe and north America, etc. also hunter-gatherer communities such as the Native Americans, hadn't domesticated many animals, and since many of the diseases were carried by animals the native Americans didn't have as much contact with them or other

communities that may have had other diseases.