Wildpro consists of two major, interlinked sections: the main Wildpro Electronic Encyclopaedia and the Electronic Library.

**THE ENCYCLOPAEDIA**

The Wildpro Electronic Encyclopaedia is structured in two complementary ways which are both intended to assist the user in finding the required information. This guide will introduce you to the main data types or page types in Wildpro, then explain about the different encyclopaedia volumes.

**Data types**

Along the top of the screen is the main menu bar. This is always visible, except when the user is viewing a picture (when viewing a picture, click the “Back” button on your browser to return to the previous page). The black button saying “Wildpro” always takes you back to the front page of the encyclopaedia – the one shown above.

The other buttons are different colours for a reason. The colour coding indicates the type of page. Pages about species always have a blue background, those about diseases have a reddish background, and so on.

If you click on the blue *Species* button you will see that you are at the top of a taxonomic tree. If you know your taxonomy, you can follow the tree down to a given genus – we have included taxonomy of all mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians down to at least genus level – or species. Note that as you click down the tree, a series of breadcrumbs appears at the top left of the page showing you your path and where you are in the system (e.g. Living Organisms / Animalia / Craniata / Mammalia / Artiodactyla / Camelidae / Lama / Species), each hyperlinked to the relevant level of the taxonomic tree. To return, you can click back along the breadcrumbs, or use the “go back” button of your browser, or simply click on the “Wildpro” symbol to jump straight back to the top level of the encyclopaedia.

The other sections are handled similarly and it may assist you if you think of each section as its own taxonomic tree – so the yellow *Chemicals* section is divided into Gross nutrients, Vitamins etc.; Metals and Minerals; and Complex Chemical Agents. The Complex Chemical Agents are further divided based on their actions – Antibiotics, Parasiticides and so on.

The light green *Physical Factors* section leads to information on different physical agents, factors and events which may be associated with disease – such as ice formation leading to entrapment in the ice, drowning under the ice, and so on.

The dark green *Environments* section at present contains relatively little information except for some pages about mosquito habitats, but will be further developed in the future.

The purple “How To” section contains all the techniques described in Wildpro. This button leads first to a set of flowcharts. Each flowchart links to a series of related pages and the flowcharts are designed to assist the user in thinking about what information they need to access and the order in which they may wish to act. Pages within this section are of two broad types: ‘Overview’ pages, which discuss aspects of different management actions, and Individual Technique pages, which have a structured format and include not only a description of a technique, but also consider its appropriate use, limitations, equipment and skill level required, and legal and ethical considerations.
The **red Diseases** section is split in two ways. If you know the type of agent associated with the disease, then you can look for Viral Diseases, Bacterial Diseases and so on. For example, you are looking for information on aspergillosis, which you remember is caused by a fungus, so you can click on Fungal Diseases, and there you are.

Alternatively, you can look for diseases associated with a particular species or Wildpro volume.

The **teal References** section provides access to all the references referred to so far in Wildpro, as well as links to videos, normal haematological and biochemical values for various species entered into Wildpro, and an extensive glossary of more than 2,300 words from Abdomen to Zygote. Note that there is extensive cross-referencing by means of hyperlinks within the glossary. Links are provided from the “Organisations & Websites” pages to the websites (each opening into a new window). For further information on the reference numbering system, see “Wildpro® Reference Numbering System Explained.”

The **grey Help** button leads to information on searching the whole encyclopaedia on-line, searching within a page, copyright and citation information, and how to contact us if you have problems.

**ENCYCLOPAEDIA VOLUMES**

Down the right hand side of the start page are listed the completed Wildpro volumes. These are of three basic types: **Species-based**, about the care of an individual species or group of related species (such as the West European Hedgehog, or Waterfowl); **Disease-based**, about a particular disease (e.g. Foot-and-Mouth Disease, West Nile Virus); or **Technique-based**, about the techniques required for a particular situation – such as Wildlife – Oil Spill Response, or Pain Management in Ruminants.

The volumes are listed in reverse order of development, so that people who use the encyclopaedia on a regular basis can see immediately if a new volume has been completed.

Each volume has its own Contents page from which the different sections of the volume are linked. Additionally, for those who prefer, there is a Table of Contents for each volume, listing all the pages in that volume.

**Waterfowl: Health and Management** contains detailed information on all species of ducks, geese and swans: natural history, diseases, disease investigation and treatment, general and species-specific husbandry information, and creation and management of man-made wetlands.
UK Wildlife: First Aid and Care is a single reference source containing everything the rehabilitator, vet or veterinary nurse needs to know when presented with “something in a cardboard box”, from species identification through assessment and husbandry to release. It includes information on wildlife casualty first aid, husbandry, rehabilitation and release together with natural history information for British mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians. There is also information on important legislation which the vet or rehabilitator needs to be aware of.

Foot-and-Mouth Disease is an in-depth review of FMD: the virus, the disease, diagnosis and surveillance, management options and FAQs. It includes full texts of original references not readily available elsewhere. Originally written in 2001 this was revised in 2007 to give updated information on legislation, OIE regulations etc.

West Nile Virus provides information on West Nile Virus in the light of the recent appearance of this disease in North America. It includes information on vector mosquitoes, surveillance methods and control measures. The equine information was updated in 2008.

Chronic Wasting Disease provides information on the clinical signs, pathology and diagnosis of CWD in deer, elk and other species. It includes detailed information on the “prion” diseases, including hypotheses and recommended CWD disease surveillance and control measures.

Disease Investigation and Management (Birds) provides guidance on investigating and dealing with wildlife disease outbreaks, combining easy access to the USGS Field Manual of Wildlife Diseases with a flowchart leading to overviews of disease investigation and management practices.

Hedgehogs: Health and Management is an in-depth focus on the West European Hedgehog, its natural history, captive management, diseases and treatment, along with pharmaceutical information, including published recommendations and dosages, and advice on hedgehog-friendly gardening.

Pain Management in Ruminants provides advice on pain assessment, prevention and alleviation in ruminants (domestic, deer) including consideration of pain neurophysiology and the use of analgesics. Pain management in common painful diseases and of common painful procedures is covered in detail.

Wildlife: Oil Spill Response incorporates existing oil spill response guidelines from contingency planning and facility requirements to collection, initial care, cleaning, rehabilitation, release and monitoring. Additionally there is data on the effects of oil and of oil spill response on different habitats, together with information on habitats and species particularly relevant for the River Thames.

Elephants: Diseases and Treatment focuses on elephant diseases and their treatment, together with natural history information for all three elephant species, and a drug formulary. It is complemented by an extensive library including the classic 1910 book ‘Elephants and their Diseases’ by G.H. Evans, as well as a number of more recent texts on aspects of elephant diseases and disease management, and elephant husbandry, such as the BIAZA Management Guidelines and the “Practical Elephant Manual” handbook for mahouts.

Bears: Health and Management includes information on the natural history, conservation status, Captive management, diseases and treatment of the American Black Bear, Asiatic Black Bear, European Brown Bear/Grizzly Bear, Polar Bear, Sloth Bear, Sun Bear and Spectacled Bear. For this volume, a complete section on the principles of Mammal Husbandry was developed, similar to that for Bird Husbandry which was first developed for the Waterfowl: Health and Management volume. A page which is very important is Meeting Mammal Behavioural Requirements, which discusses management considerations such as group composition, looks at stress and behavioural problems such as stereotypic behaviour, and then considers different aspects of enclosure design and environmental enrichment to ensure that the animal’s behavioural requirements are properly met. As with the other husbandry pages, this considers first the principles, then specifics for bears.

An additional Electronic Library Document which is particularly appropriate for use with this section is The Environmental Husbandry Manual, which contains brief descriptions of many enrichment options, together with an indication of which species they are useful for, ease of use and so on.

Rabies in Racoons: Biology and Behaviour provides information about the biology and behaviour of raccoons, the raccoon rabies variant, and how raccoon biology and behaviour affects raccoon rabies transmission. The specific aim of this volume was to show how the transmission of raccoon rabies variant
may be affected by the normal biology and behaviour of raccoons as well as by changes in behaviour associated with rabies infection.

THE LIBRARY

The Library contains more than 170 texts, ranging from whole books to single-page factsheets on a variety of topics associated with the Encyclopaedia. These texts are linked from appropriate pages of the encyclopaedia and are always accessible from the books symbol on the far right side of the main menu bar.

Entire Library

- Ethics, Standards and the Law
- Disease Investigation and Habitat Management
- Animal Species Information & Management Guidelines (Non-marine)
- Marine Wildlife Guidelines

Within the complete Library, the books are arranged in four broad topics as indicated here. You can also move from the complete library to the shorter pages containing links only to texts associated with an individual Wildpro volume. These sub-library pages are also available linked from the Contents, Table of Contents and List (List of Diseases, List of species etc.) pages of the relevant Wildpro volumes.

Most of the documents in the library are provided as Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) files, some are provided as one or a series of .html files and a few are provided in both formats. Clicking on the title of the document (text) will take you to the reference page for the document (e.g. B36 – Field Manual of Wildlife Diseases) which in turn will link to the document. Clicking on the Adobe symbol will take you directly to the document, except that when a long text is provided as a series of .pdf files there is an intermediate page leading to the set of .pdf files. If the document is provided in .html format then clicking on the book picture will bring up the Title Page, from which the Contents Page is available and then the various sections are linked from the Contents page.