



ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

What is it?



MICRO-ORGANISMS

Micro-organisms are everywhere. They include bacteria that can sometimes cause disease and infection in humans, animals and plants.



ANTIMICROBIALS

A substance that kills or stops micro-organisms from growing.



ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (AMR)

AMR refers to the ability of micro-organisms to survive in the presence of an antimicrobial, which it was previously unable to do. This is a serious rising threat to our health and to that of our animals.

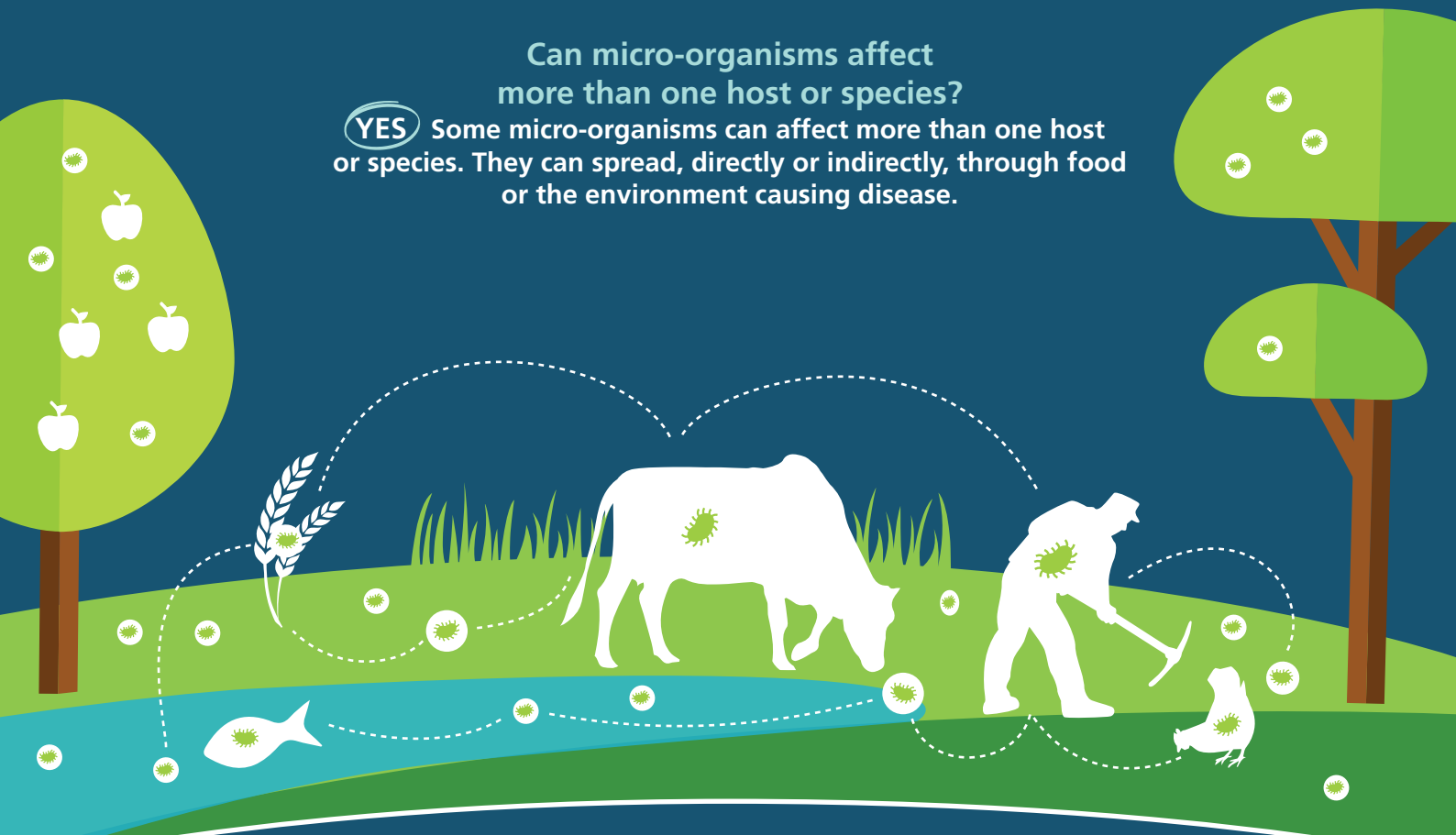


MICRO-ORGANISMS

Micro-organisms are microscopic organisms that include bacteria, viruses, parasites and fungi. Some of these microbes can cause disease in humans, animals and plants.

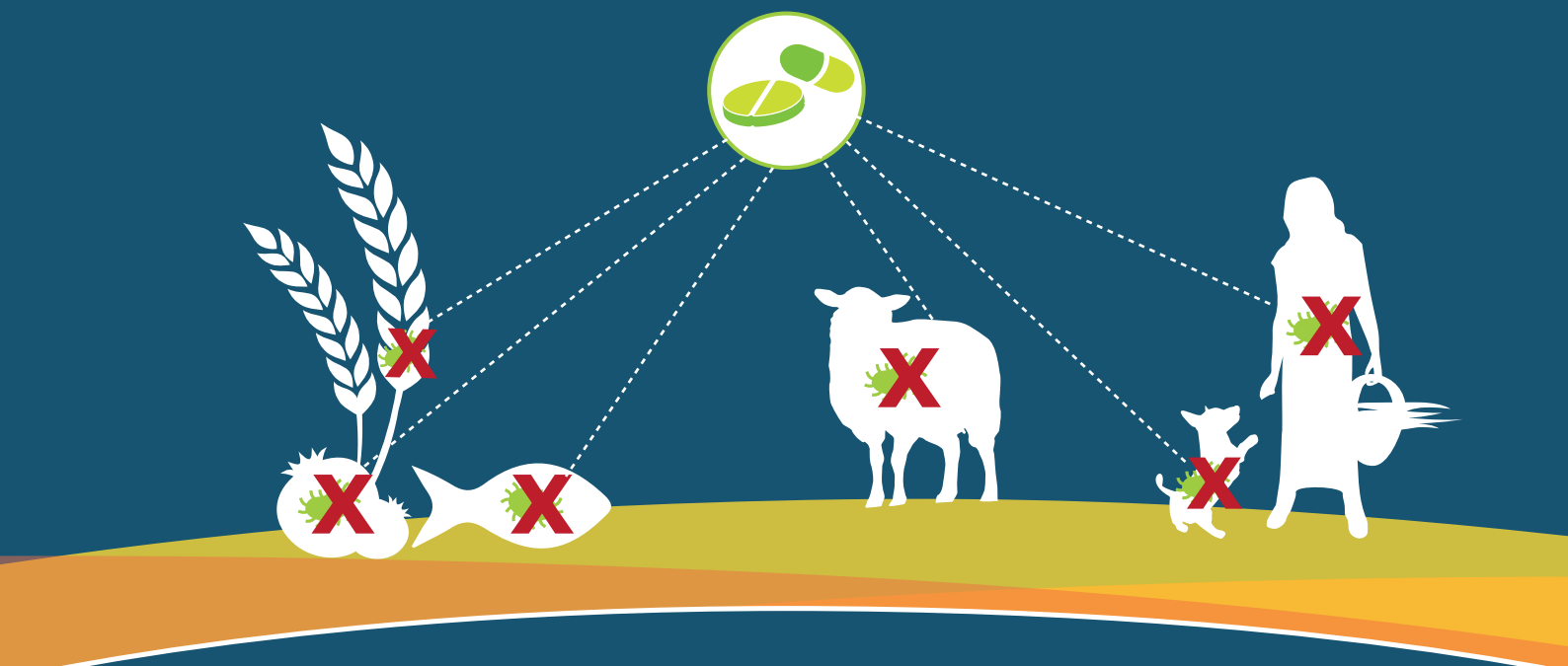
Can micro-organisms affect more than one host or species?

YES Some micro-organisms can affect more than one host or species. They can spread, directly or indirectly, through food or the environment causing disease.



ANTIMICROBIALS

Drugs that help us treat diseases caused by microbes in humans, livestock, fish, plants and pets.



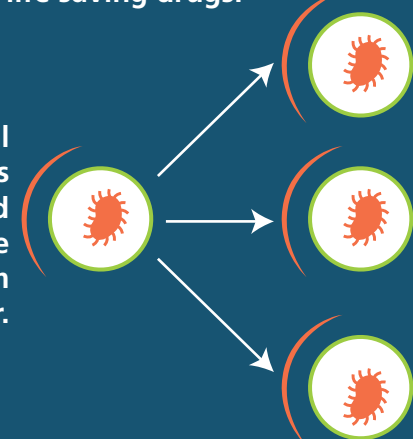
ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

Micro-organisms, including those that cause infection and disease, are becoming resistant to antimicrobial drugs. This is a natural phenomenon which is being sped up by the over- and misuse of these life saving drugs.

The misuse (e.g. wrong dose or duration) of antimicrobials, can lead to antimicrobial resistance.

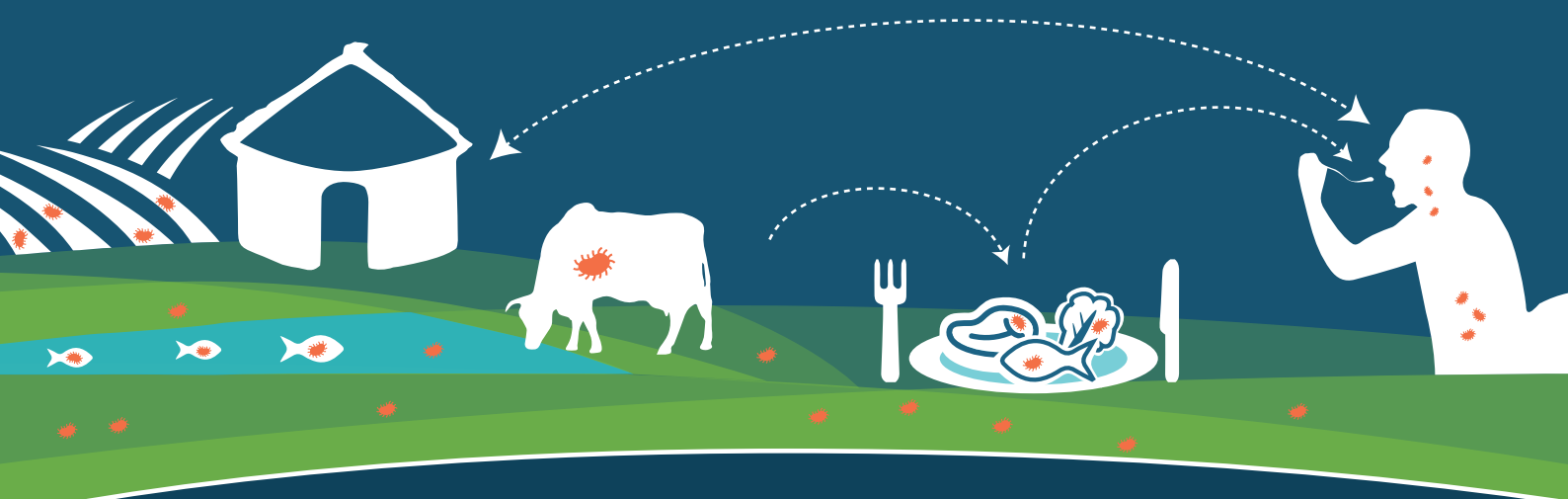


Antimicrobial resistance genes can be transferred from one micro-organism to another.



Antimicrobial resistant micro-organisms can spread through the food chain and the environment

When microorganisms become resistant to a particular antimicrobial, they can then infect different hosts through the food chain or the environment. The antimicrobial will then no longer work to treat the infection or disease in the new host.



WHAT TO DO

HOW CAN AGRICULTURE CONTRIBUTE to stop antimicrobial resistance from developing further?



Prevent infections at farm level by applying good practices. Use antimicrobials responsibly, by reducing and regulating their use. Promote sustainable food and agricultural systems with improved biosecurity to prevent infections and reduce the need to use antimicrobials and the spread of antimicrobial resistance.

