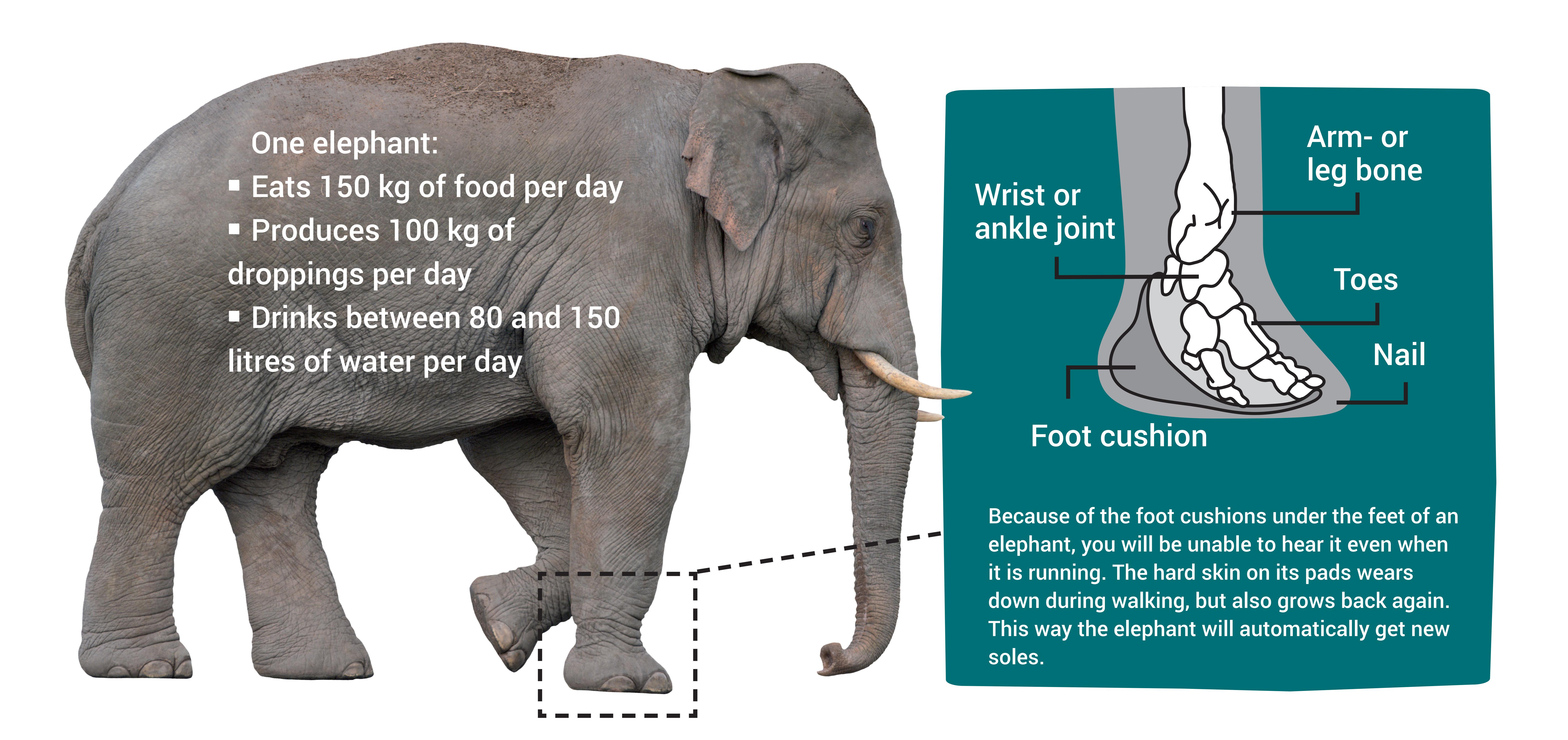
SILDIANS - IBACICSTAGIE -



ELEPHANT WELLNESS

BIGFEET
Elephants walk on the tips of their toes

The elephants have plenty of space to move around in Rimbula during the day and night. These training enclosures enable the keepers to check up on the health of the animals.



PEDICURE FOR ELEPHANTS

The elephants in WILDLANDS have smaller distances to walk than in the wild and as a result their nails and hard skin wear down more slowly. To ensure the animals do not develop problems with their feet, the keepers attend to their pads and regularly file their nails.

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HOW ARE THE ELEPHANTS TRAINED?

The training is based on rewarding good behaviour. The reward is in the form of a treat, such as an apple. There is never any penalty or punishment involved. If the elephant refuses to cooperate, the keepers will have to try again another day.

- The keeper taps the foot with a stick.
- The keeper gives a command and taps the stick on the spot where the elephant should place its foot.
- The keeper rewards the elephant with a treat when it carries out the task.
- The keeper can attend to the feet..

TRAINING

Of course, training an elephant does not produce natural behaviour, but it does increase animal welfare.

Anaesthetising an elephant every time would cause the animal much too much stress.

Fortunately, elephants are quite curious by nature and they are keen to try out new things. And, of course, apples are a tasty treat!