

PET SHOP CHECK LIST

Inspection Details

This is an internal document to be used by Inspectors to guide them in undertaking a basic pet shop inspection. The most common species have been included here together with common concerns but it is up to the inspector to find out more information, ask questions and ensure that appropriate action is taken to ensure the welfare of the animals is protected.

Explanatory Note: When completing this checklist, the relative observations can be circled or underlined and or inspectors comments recorded on the line above. For example:

Hygiene of cages: Overall good – cages being cleaned during inspection Hamsters
Good Fair Bad Excess Faeces Old/Soiled Food

Name of Pet Shop: Molly's Pet Shop

Address: Acob St 12. B Moorreesburg

Name of Owner: Wilma Cell: 084 247 0618

Tel: _____ Fax/Email: _____

Veterinarian: _____ Tel: _____

GENERAL

What happens to sick animals: Taken to the vet.
 Self medicate New owners must treat Taken to vet

What happens to animals after hours: Stay in the shop
 Kept in shop Go home with owner Sent back to supplier

What treatment do Puppies get: No puppies
 Vaccine De-wormer Vaccine on Request None Other

What treatment do Kittens get: No kittens
 Vaccine De-wormer Vaccine on Request None Other

Quarantine Cages Provided: Yes

Rodent control: No Yes NO None Seen Separate Room

Suppliers of animals: Unwanted animals
 Open Poison/Poison Stations/Poison Pipes/Live Traps/Rat Traps

Do they breed: No Yes / No / Uncertain Single Sex Groups

If breeding, what happens to offspring: _____
 Hand Reared / Parent Reared / Sold Unweaned

If removed for hand rearing, from what age: _____

Reason for hand rearing: _____

RODENTS

Numbers: Rats _____ Mice _____ Guinea Pigs _____ Hamsters _____

Group structures _____
 Singly Mother & Young Separate Same sizes together All together

Compatibility of Groups _____
 Good (Play & Positive Interaction) Fighting Bullying Describe Above

Space _____
 Good (Play & move normally) Acceptable (stretch out, stand normally & turn) Cramped/Too small

Cage Maintenance _____
 Good Fair (some repairs needed) Poor (harmful features)

Are cages raised off the ground to prevent handling/accidental kicking/reduce stress: _____
 Yes No

Hygiene of cages _____
 Good Fair Bad Excess Faeces Old/Soiled Food

Ventilation _____
 Good (No Ammonia Smell) Fair Poor (Ammonia Smell)

Draughts _____
 No Yes Describe

Temperature _____
 Too Hot (Panting etc) Too Cold (Curled up/shivering) Comfortable (20°C- 24°C)

Do they allow breeding _____
 Yes No Describe Above

How do staff handle animals _____
 Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Do they allow public to handle the animals _____
 Yes No Not Seen

Hiding areas _____
 Good (Box/Plastic Container) Fair (not enough) Unacceptable (None) Other

Bedding _____
 Sawdust Straw Newspaper Other

Is bedding clean & absorbent _____
 Yes / No Needs Changing Type: Sawdust/Newspaper/Other

Cleaning routine _____ per day _____ per week

Water _____
 Non-tip Bowl Bowl too small Bowl too deep to reach water None available

Hygiene of water provision _____
 Clean Dirty Very Dirty Green Algae Soiled

Diet _____
 Good Pellets Roughage Fresh Vegetables/Fruit Vit C for Guinea Pigs (220mg/lit water daily)

Frequency of feed _____ Do they remove old food? Yes _____ No _____

Is the diet _____
 Good & Nutritious Poor Not Fresh Not enough Other comments

Are the animals fully weaned _____
 Yes (feeding themselves well) Just Weaned Under Age

Condition of animals _____
 Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe Above

Describe Concerns _____
 Injuries/ Poor Coat / Listless / Runny Eyes/ Runny Nose / Diarrhoea

How are rodents transported from the shop _____

Where are unweaned rodents kept _____
 Good (with mother) Unacceptable (Plastic container/cage/box)

Are unweaned rodents sold live? _____
 No (Good) Yes (Unacceptable)

How are rodents killed (as reptile food)? _____
 CO2 (Unacceptable issue warning) Hitting on Head/live freezing Describe

PUPPIES, KITTENS & RABBITS

Puppy Numbers & Breeds: _____

Kitten Numbers: _____ Rabbit Numbers: _____

Group structures _____

Singly Only with litter mates Some litters mixed All together

Compatibility of Groups _____

Good (Play & Positive Interaction) Mixed Sizes Bullying Describe Above

Space _____

Good (Play & move normally) Acceptable (stretch out, stand normally & turn) Cramped/Too small

Cage Maintenance _____

Good Fair (some repairs needed) Poor (harmful features)

Hygiene of cages _____

Good Fair Unacceptable Excess Faeces Old/Soiled Food

Ventilation _____

Good (Fresh & Clean) No (Stuffy & Smelly) Describe Above

Draughts _____

No Yes Describe Above

Temperature _____

Too Hot (Panting etc) Too Cold (Curled up/shivering) Comfortable

Shelter provided in outside pens _____

Good Needs Improvement Poor None

Do they allow breeding _____

Yes No Describe Above

How do staff handle animals _____

Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Do they allow public to handle animals: Adults _____ Children (Age) _____ Under supervision _____

Floor construction: _____

Wood Concrete Chicken Mesh Weld Mesh Soil Other

Bedding: _____

Blankets Bed Carpet Soil Sawdust Straw Newspaper Other

Is Bedding Clean & Absorbent: _____

Yes No Needs Changing Other

Cleaning routine _____ per day _____ per week

Water _____

Non-Tip Bowl Bowl too small Bowl too deep to reach water None Available

Hygiene of water provision _____

Clean Dirty Very Dirty Green Algae Soiled

Diet for Puppies _____ Kittens _____

Diet for Rabbits _____

Quality Pellets Roughage Fresh Vegetables/Fruit Other

Is the diet _____

Good & Nutritious Poor Not Fresh Not Enough Other

Frequency of feed _____ Do they remove old food? Yes _____ No _____

Are the animals fully weaned? _____

Yes (feeding themselves well) Just Weaned Not Weaned

Condition of animals _____

Good Fair Poor Very Poor

Describe Concerns _____

Injuries/Poor Coat/Listless/Runny Eyes/Runny Nose/Diarrhoea

FISHHygiene of tanks Good

Good Fair Poor Excess Algae Waste Material (Faeces/Debris)

Is water clean Yes

Clear (see fish clearly) Quite Clear Smelly Foamy (on surface) Cloudy

Is equipment (nets/heaters) in good repair Yes

Good Fair Poor Other

Do the tanks have efficient aeration Yes

Good (Bubbles) Fair (some bubbles) Unacceptable (No bubbles)

Do the tanks have filtration Yes

Good Fair None

Is water in tanks tested appropriately for temperature/pH/ammonia/nitrites/oxygen Yes ☒ No ☐Are the tanks enriched Yes

Plants Hiding Areas Rocks Gravel Other

Are the tanks overstocked No

Good Fair Poor

Are lights turned off at night for fish to rest Yes

Yes No

Do tanks have covers Yes

Yes No

Water at proper level (should be small gap between top of water and cover) Yes

Yes No

Condition of animals Acceptable

Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe Above

Describe Concerns No concerns noted

Unusual growths, patches or spots/Wounds/Abnormal swimming/ Over or Under activity/Flashing/Fin damage/Panting at surface/Rubbing/Clamped fins

Temperature Suitable Yes

Goldfish 10°C – 22°C; Tropical fish 23°C– 27°C

How often are the fish fed: Once a day

Daily Not during weekends (unacceptable)

Is enough species specific food given Yes

Yes No Appears Acceptable

In the event of a power failure is the pet shop owner / attendant informed: Yes

Yes No

How do staff handle animals Good

Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Any dead fish observed: Describe Reason NoCompatibility of Groups Good

Good Poor (Chasing/Bullying/Hiding/Damaged fins)

How are fish destroyed when necessary Brain maceration, or clove oil

Unacceptable – fed live to other fish/left out of water to suffocate/flushed down toilets)

Acceptable – brain maceration/submersion in clove oil (and other suitable chemicals)

Do Aquatic Amphibians have a shelf or floating island to enable them to get out of the water

How do the buyers transport the fish from the shop Plastic bag with oxygen

In strong plastic bags pumped with pure oxygen

Is the chlorine removed from tap water before adding to tanks

(Aerated for 24 hours or a de-chlorinating product used)? Yes

Yes No

BIRDS

Bird Numbers & Breeds _____

Group structures _____

Singly In small groups Large Groups Same species Mixed Species

Compatibility of Groups _____

Good (No aggression/anxiety) Chasing/Bullying etc Describe Above

Space _____

Good (Play & move normally) Acceptable (stretch out, stand normally & turn) Cramped/Too small

Cage Maintenance _____

Good Fair (some repairs needed) Poor (harmful features)

Hygiene of cages _____

Good Fair Poor Excess Faeces Old/Spoiled Food

Ventilation _____

Good (Fresh & Clean) No (Stuffy & Smelly) Other

Are birds exposed to draughts _____

No Yes Describe Above

Are birds left in full sun _____

No Yes Describe Above

Temperature _____

Too Hot (Beak open etc) Too Cold (Fluffed up/shivering) Comfortable

Shelter provided in outside pens _____

Good Needs Improvement Poor None

Adequate perch space _____

Good (all can rest on perches at same time) Fair Poor (birds on floor & cage sides)

Note: Birds need more horizontal space than vertical. Approx 10cm horizontal space per bird such as parakeets

Are perches placed above each other (causing faeces to drop onto birds below) _____

No Yes

Suppliers of birds _____

How do staff handle animals _____

Very Well Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Cleaning routine _____ per day _____ per week

Water _____

Non-Tip Bowl Hanging Bowl Bowl too deep Bowl too small None Available

Hygiene of water provision _____

Clean Dirty Very Dirty Green Algae Soiled

Diet for Birds _____

Frequency of feed: _____ Do they remove old food: Yes _____ No _____

Note: Check to see that there is seed in the food dish, not just empty shells left by the birds.

Is the diet _____

Good & Nutritious Poor Not Fresh Not Enough Other

Are the animals fully weaned _____

Yes (feeding themselves well) Just weaned Under-age

Condition of animals _____

Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe Above

Describe Concerns _____

Injuries/ Poor Feather Condition/Feather Loss/Listless /Runny or Swollen Eyes/Nose

How are birds transported from the shop _____

REPTILES

Reptile Numbers & Breeds _____

Group structures _____

Singly In small groups Large Groups Same species Mixed Species

Compatibility of Groups _____

Good (No aggression/anxiety) Aggression Describe Above

Space _____

Good (stretch & move normally) Acceptable (stretch out, turn normally) Too small (cramped, no normal movement)

Note: The cage / tank should be large enough for the entire body of snakes, more than double in lizards

Cage/Tank Maintenance _____

Good Fair (some repairs needed) Poor (harmful features)

Hygiene of cages _____

Good Fair Bad Excess Scat Excess Shedded Skin

Are reptiles left in full sun _____

No Yes Describe Above

Temperature Suitable _____

Note: Snakes tropical 27°C – 38°C; other 20°C – 35°C; Lizards 30°C-35°C

How do staff handle animals _____

Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Do they allow public to handle the animals _____

Yes No Not Seen

Handled by: Adults _____ Children (Age) _____ Only under supervision _____

Venomous snakes: Are staff trained to handle _____

Yes No

Security/safety _____

Double Door/ Single Door/ Door Latch/ Door Lock/Back door/Warning signs

Are tank covers secure to prevent escape _____

Yes No

Enrichment/Hiding Area _____

Logs / Wood / Box / Pipes / Tunnels /Describe Other

Bedding _____

Snakes- non-abrasive material i.e. newspaper Lizards gravel Describe Above

Is bedding clean & absorbent _____

Yes No Needs Changing Other

Cleaning routine _____ per day _____ per week

Heating _____

Heat Lamp / Light Bulb / Heat Tile / Hot water Bottle / Heating Pad / Element / None

Safety of heat source _____

No bare lamps

Water _____

Non-Tip Bowl Deep Wide Bowl Too Small None Available

Hygiene of water provision _____

Clean Dirty Filthy Green Algae Soiled

Diet for reptiles _____

Live Prey (Unacceptable) Dead Animals Describe Above

Source of prey _____

Bought dead (from where) Killed on site (describe method) Other

Frequency of feed _____ Do they remove old food? Yes _____ No _____

Condition of animals _____

Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe Bad Shedding

Describe concerns _____

Injuries/ Laboured Breathing/Holding mouth open/Nasal discharge

How are reptiles transported from the shop _____

SPIDERS & SCORPIONS, INSECTS

Numbers & Breeds: _____

Group structures _____
 Singly In small groups Large Groups Same species Mixed Species

Compatibility of Groups _____
 Good (No aggression/anxiety) Aggression/Fighting Describe Above

Space _____
 Good (Stretch/move normally) Acceptable (stretch out/turn normally) Too small (cramped together/no normal movement)

Cage/Tank Maintenance _____
 Good Fair (some repairs needed) Poor (harmful features)

Hygiene of cages _____
 Good Fair Bad Old/Soiled Food Mould

Are Tarantulas protected from bright lights/full sun which will dry them out _____
 No Yes Describe Above

Temperature Suitable _____
 Note: Tropical species need more humidity than desert animals

How do staff handle animal _____
 Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Do they allow public to handle the animals _____
 Yes No Not Seen

Handled by: Adults _____ Children (Age) _____ Only under supervision _____

Security/safety _____
 Door Latch/ Door Lock

Are tank covers secure to prevent escape _____
 Yes No

Enrichment/Hiding Area _____
 Logs / Wood / Box / Pipes / Tunnels Describe Other

Substrate _____

Is substrate Clean & Absorbent _____

Cleaning routine _____
 Yes No Needs Changing Other
 per day _____ per week

Heating _____
 Heat Lamp / Light Bulb / Heat Tile / Hot water Bottle / Heating Pad / Element / None

Safety of Heat Source _____
 No bare lamps One side of tank Over entire tank

Water _____
 Non-tip Bowl Deep Wide Bowl Shallow Bowl Gel Balls None Available

Hygiene of water provision: _____
 Clean Dirty Filthy Green Algae Soiled

Diet for Animals _____
 Live Prey Dead insects Food flakes Describe Above

Source of Food _____

Frequency of feed _____ Do they remove old food: Yes _____ No _____

Condition of animals _____
 Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe Above

Describe concerns _____
 Injuries/ Limbs missing/upside down Describe Other

How are animals transported from the shop: _____