

# PET SHOP CHECK LIST

I 798

## 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 Goeterijssies  
 Address: 53 Main Road  
 Name of Owner: Pamela Scheepers Cell: 0764051526  
 Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax/Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Veterinarian: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

## GENERAL

What happens to sick animals: Take to the vet  
 What happens to animals after hours: stay in the shop  
 What treatment do Puppies get: No puppies  
 What treatment do Kittens get: No kittens  
 Quarantine Cages Provided: yes  
 Rodent control: Bait Station  
 Suppliers of animals: Unwanted Pets  
 Do they breed: No  
 If breeding, what happens to offspring: No breeding  
 If removed for hand rearing, from what age: "  
 Reason for hand rearing: "

## RODENTS

Numbers: Rats 2 Mice \_\_\_\_\_ Guinea Pigs \_\_\_\_\_ Hamsters 2

Group structures one in each cage

Compatibility of Groups 11 Singly Mother & Young Separate Same sizes together All together

Space adequate Good (Play & Positive Interaction) Fighting Bullying Describe Above

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

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

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

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

Draughts \_\_\_\_\_ No Yes Describe

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

Do they allow breeding No they are separate Yes No Describe Above

How do staff handle animals Not observed

Do they allow public to handle the animals No Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Hiding areas yes Yes No Not Seen

Bedding available Good (Box/Plastic Container) Fair (not enough) Unacceptable (None) Other

Is bedding clean & absorbent yes Sawdust Straw Newspaper Other

Cleaning routine Once a day Yes / No Needs Changing Type: Sawdust/Newspaper/Other per day Every day per week

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

Hygiene of water provision Clean

Diet Rodent Pellets for Rats & Hamsters Good Pellets Poughage Fresh Vegetables/Fruit Vit C for Guinea Pigs (220mg/lit water daily) Hamster mix

Frequency of feed twice a day Do they remove old food? Yes ☒ No ☐

Is the diet Go 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 Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe Above

Describe Concerns No concerns

How are rodents transported from the shop In cages or boxes Injuries / Poor Coat / Listless / Runny Eyes / Runny Nose / Diarrhoea

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

Are unweaned rodents sold live? \_\_\_\_\_

How are rodents killed (as reptile food)? They don't kill Yes (Unacceptable)

**CO2 (Unacceptable issue warning)** Hitting on Head/live freezing Describe

**PUPPIES, KITTENS & RABBITS**

Puppy Numbers &amp; Breeds: \_\_\_\_\_

Kitten Numbers: \_\_\_\_\_ Rabbit Numbers: 2Group structures Same Species  
Singly Only with litter mates Some litters mixed All togetherCompatibility of Groups Good  
Good (Play & Positive Interaction) Mixed Sizes Bullying Describe AboveSpace Good  
Good (Play & move normally) Acceptable (stretch out, stand normally & turn) Cramped/Too smallCage Maintenance Good  
Good Fair (some repairs needed) Poor (harmful features)Hygiene of cages Good  
Good Fair Unacceptable Excess Faeces Old/Soiled FoodVentilation Good  
Good (Fresh & Clean) No (Stuffy & Stinky) Describe AboveDraughts No  
No Yes Describe AboveTemperature Comfortable  
Too Hot (Panting etc) Too Cold (Cuddled up/shivering) ComfortableShelter provided in outside pens No outside pens  
Good Needs Improvement Poor NoneDo they allow breeding No  
Yes No Describe AboveHow do staff handle animals Not observed  
Yes No Describe AboveDo they allow public to handle animals: Adults Not allowed Children (Age) Under supervision  
UnacceptableFloor construction: Wood  
Wood Concrete Chicken Mesh Weld Mesh Soil OtherBedding: Hay and Sanddust  
Blankets Bed Carpet Soil Sawdust Straw Newspaper OtherIs Bedding Clean & Absorbent: Yes it's clean  
Yes No Needs Changing OtherCleaning routine once per day Every day per week  
Yes No Needs Changing OtherWater Clean  
Non-Tip Bowl Bowl too small Bowl too deep to reach water None AvailableHygiene of water provision Clean  
Clean Dirty Very Dirty Green Algae SoiledDiet for ~~Puppies~~ KittensDiet for Rabbits Rabbit Pellets and vegetables  
Quality Pellets Roughage Fresh Vegetables/Fruit OtherIs the diet Good and nutritious  
Good & Nutritious Poor Not Fresh Not Enough OtherFrequency of feed Twice a day Do they remove old food? Yes ☒ No ☐Are the animals fully weaned? \_\_\_\_\_  
Yes (feeding themselves well) Just Weaned Not WeanedCondition of animals Good  
Good Fair Poor Very PoorDescribe Concerns No concerns  
Injuries/Poor Coat/Listless/Runny Eyes/Runny Nose/Diarrhoea

**FISH**

Hygiene of tanks Good and well maintained  
Good Fair Poor Excess Algae Waste Material (Faeces/Debris)

Is water clean yes  
Clear (see fish clearly) Dirty Clear Smelly Foamy/On surface Cloudy

Is equipment (nets/heaters) in good repair yes they are  
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 Good  
Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe Above

Describe Concerns No concerns  
Unusual growths, patches or spots/Wounds/Abnormal swimming/ Over or Under activity/Bloating/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: Twice 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 Not observed  
Good Fair Poor

Any dead fish observed: Describe Reason No  
Good Fair Poor

Compatibility of Groups Good  
Good Fair Poor

How are fish destroyed when necessary Clare oil  
Good Fair Poor

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 In a bag  
Describe 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 5x Budgies and 2x CockatielsGroup structures Same speciesCompatibility of Groups Good no bullyingSpace GoodCage Maintenance GoodHygiene of cages GoodVentilation Good (fresh and clean)Are birds exposed to draughts NoAre birds left in full sun NoTemperature ComfortableShelter provided in outside pens No outside pensAdequate perch space yes

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) NoSuppliers of birds Unwanted PetsHow do staff handle animals Not observedCleaning routine Once Every day per weekWater Clean non-tip bowlsHygiene of water provision CleanDiet for Birds Budgie seed & cockatiels bird pallet and vegetablesFrequency of feed: 1x per day Do they remove old food: Yes ☒ No ☐Is the diet Good and nutritiousAre the animals fully weaned yesCondition of animals GoodDescribe Concerns No concern observedHow are birds transported from the shop In bird cages

**REPTILES**

Reptile Numbers & Breeds \_\_\_\_\_

Group structures \_\_\_\_\_  
Singly / 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 repair needed) / Poor (harmful features)

Hygiene of cages \_\_\_\_\_  
Good / Fair / Bad / Excess Slat / 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: soft absorbent material like 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 &amp; Breeds: \_\_\_\_\_

Group structures \_\_\_\_\_

Compatibility of Groups \_\_\_\_\_

Space \_\_\_\_\_

Cage/Tank Maintenance \_\_\_\_\_

Hygiene of cages \_\_\_\_\_

Are Tarantulas protected from bright lights/full sun which will dry them out \_\_\_\_\_

Temperature Suitable \_\_\_\_\_

How do staff handle animal \_\_\_\_\_

Do they allow public to handle the animals \_\_\_\_\_

Handled by: Adults \_\_\_\_\_ Children (Age) \_\_\_\_\_ Only under supervision \_\_\_\_\_

Security/safety \_\_\_\_\_

Are tank covers secure to prevent escape \_\_\_\_\_

Enrichment/Hiding Area \_\_\_\_\_

Substrate \_\_\_\_\_

Is substrate Clean &amp; Absorbent \_\_\_\_\_

Cleaning routine \_\_\_\_\_ per day \_\_\_\_\_ per week

Heating \_\_\_\_\_

Safety of Heat Source \_\_\_\_\_

Water \_\_\_\_\_

Hygiene of water provision: \_\_\_\_\_

Diet for Animals \_\_\_\_\_

Source of Food \_\_\_\_\_

Frequency of feed \_\_\_\_\_ Do they remove old food: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Condition of animals \_\_\_\_\_

Describe concerns \_\_\_\_\_

How are animals transported from the shop: \_\_\_\_\_

**ON COMPLETION OF INSPECTION COMPLETE THIS SECTION:**

Was a warning given? (Copy to be attached)

Yes \_\_\_\_\_

No XComments:

There is not so many animals left at this Pet Shop as it is closing at the end of this month. All the cages are clean and well kept. food, clean drinking water, enrichments and proper handling equipment was observed. The fish tanks are well kept and clean also. There is no contravention of the APA

Inspector: P. ChimwangaDate: 07/10/25Time: 11:20

Follow up due \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: