

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: Pikkewyn Pet shop
 Address: 61 Main Str, Vredenburg
 Name of Owner: Jochin Cell: 0830110
 Tel: 083 233 8604 Fax/Email: _____
 Veterinarian: _____ Tel: _____

GENERAL

What happens to sick animals: Take 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: N/A
Vaccine De-worming Vaccine on Request None Other

What treatment do Kittens get: N/A
Vaccine De-worming Vaccine on Request None Other

Quarantine Cages Provided: Yes
No Yes No Seen Separate Room

Rodent control: Let in the shop
Open Poison/Poison Station/Poison Pits/Live Traps/Box Traps

Suppliers of animals: Unwanted pets / Cape Town

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

If breeding, what happens to offspring: N/A
Hand-Reared / Parent Reared / Solo Unweaned

If removed for hand rearing, from what age: N/A

Reason for hand rearing: N/A

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 togetherCompatibility of Groups _____
Good (Play & Positive Interaction) Mixed Sizes Bullying Describe AboveSpace _____
Good (Play & move normally) Acceptable (stretch out, stand normally & turn) Cramped/Too smallCage Maintenance _____
Good Fair (some repairs needed) Poor (harmful features)Hygiene of cages _____
Good Fair Unacceptable Excess Faeces Old/Soiled FoodVentilation _____
Good (Fresh & Clean) No (Stuffy & Smelly) Describe AboveDraughts _____
No Yes Describe AboveTemperature _____
Too Hot (Panting etc) Too Cold (Curled up/shivering) ComfortableShelter provided in outside pens _____
Good Needs Improvement Poor NoneDo they allow breeding _____
Yes No Describe AboveHow 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 OtherBedding: _____
Blankets Bed Carpet Soil Sawdust Straw Newspaper OtherIs 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 AvailableHygiene of water provision _____
Clean Dirty Very Dirty Green Algae Soiled

Diet for Puppies _____ Kittens _____

Diet for Rabbits _____
Quality Pellets Roughage Fresh Vegetables/Fruit OtherIs 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 WeanedCondition of animals _____
Good Fair Poor Very PoorDescribe Concerns _____
Injuries/Poor Coat/Listless/Runny Eyes/Runny Nose/Diarrhoea

FISH

Hygiene of tanks Very 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 Plants and rocks
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 None observed
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: Every 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 No
Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Compatibility of Groups Good
Good Fair Poor (Chasing/Bullying/Hiding/Damaged fins)

How are fish destroyed when necessary Mixture of clove oil
Good Fair Poor (Chasing/Bullying/Hiding/Damaged fins)

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 No

How do the buyers transport the fish from the shop Plastic bags with air
In strong plastic bags pumped with pure oxygen

Is the chlorine removed from tap water before adding to tanks Yes
 (Aerated for 24 hours or a de-chlorinating product used)? Yes
Yes No

BIRDS

6x Finches

Bird Numbers & Breeds 2x Ringneck, 5x doves, 2 Cockatiels

Group structures Some species together

Compatibility of Groups Good Singly In small groups Large Groups Same species Mixed Species

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

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

Hygiene of cages Good Good Fair (some repairs needed) Poor (harmful features)

Ventilation Fresh Good Fair Poor Excess Faeces Old/Spoiled Food

Are birds exposed to draughts No Good (Fresh & Clean) No (Stuffy & Smelly) Other

Are birds left in full sun No No Yes Describe Above

Temperature Comfortable No Yes Describe Above

Shelter provided in outside pens No outside pens Too Hot (Beak open etc) Too Cold (Fluffed up/shivering) Comfortable

Adequate perch space Yes 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

Suppliers of birds Lape Town No Yes

How do staff handle animals Good

Cleaning routine Twice Very Well Good Fair Poor Unacceptable 7x per day per week

Water hanging bowls

Hygiene of water provision Clean Non-Tip Bowl Hanging Bowl Bowl too deep Bowl too small None Available

Diet for Birds Species specific diets Clean Dirty Very Dirty Green Algae Soiled

Frequency of feed: Everyday 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 Good & Nutritious Poor Not Fresh Not Enough Other

Are the animals fully weaned Yes

Condition of animals Acceptable Yes (feeding themselves well) Just weaned Under-age

Describe Concerns None Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe Above

How are birds transported from the shop Cardbox with holes Injuries/ Poor Feather Condition/ Feather Loss/ Listless / Runny or Swollen Eyes/Nose

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 _____
 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 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: _____

ON COMPLETION OF INSPECTION COMPLETE THIS SECTION:

Was a warning given? (Copy to be attached)

Yes _____ No _____

Comments:

- ① Pet shop is clean and neat
- ② Animals in acceptable conditions
- ③ No sick, dead or injured animals were observed.
- ④ Staff handles the animals humanely.

Inspector:

J. OCTOBER

Date:

#2 30/1/26

Time:

12:00

Follow up due _____

Comments: