

SWARTLAND WEST COAST SPCA
INSPECTOR REPORT

I4012

Complaint Reference No.

Building:
Street: 0 WIGGINS STABLES
Suburb: JACOBSBAY
Postal Code:
Inspector: JAMESON OCTOBER
Date of Inspection: 2024-12-23
Time of Inspection: 14:30

RESPONDENT'S DETAILS

Name:
Company:
Identification:
Email:
Tel 1:
Tel 2: 0834618639

REPORT

Access Granted By: JACQUES WIGGINS
Comment:
Were Animals Seen on the Property: Yes
Relationship to Property Owner: Owner
Captured By: LOUISE VAN ZYL 2024-12-24 09:21

CHECKLISTS

CONFINEMENT OF ANIMALS	Caged - adequate space	Horses, stabled.
ADEQUATE SPACE AVAILABLE	Yes	
CLEAN LIVING ENVIRONMENT	Yes	
WATER AVAILABLE	Yes	
ADEQUATE SHELTER AVAILABLE	Yes	
ANIMALS IN GOOD CONDITION	Yes	
VETERINARY PROBLEMS / HEALTH CO	No	

General Report Comments: Prior to conducting an inspection at Wiggins Stables, I consulted with Mike from the Farm Yard Unit at the NSPCA to seek guidance and ensure the inspection was carried out correctly. Mike reviewed the video footage that was shared publicly and advised the following:

I should inquire about the age of the grey horse featured in the video.
I should specifically check for any signs of tail bracing on the horses.
He confirmed that the lunging technique shown in the video was acceptable.
I then proceeded to visit Wiggins Stables with Trainee Inspector Mathabela. We were met by Mr. Jacques Wiggins, the owner of the farm. I introduced myself and informed Mr. Wiggins that I was in the area and wished to conduct a routine inspection.

Findings:

Horses on the Property:

Mr. Wiggins confirmed that the property houses 24 American Saddle Horses, 6 Hackney Horses, and 1 Traditional Boerperd. The grey horse in the video was confirmed to be a 4-year-old mare. I personally observed all of these horses during the inspection.

Stabling Conditions:

The property contains approximately 100 stables. The stables at the main entrance measure 3.5m x 3.5m, while those on the left of the property measure 3.3m x 3.2m. Three of the horses belong to Mr. Wiggins, while the rest are kept there for training purposes.

No horses were found to be stabled with restraining equipment or hobbles.

All horses had access to food and water.

The stables were clean and well-maintained.

Feed Room and Supplies:

The feed room contained bags of 12% horse feed, lucerne bales, and oat hay bales.

Tail Bracing:

I inquired about tail bracing, and Mr. Wiggins stated that it is not practiced on the property. I inspected the horses for signs of tail bracing or marks under their tails and found no evidence of such practices. Mr. Wiggins explained that fake tails are used during competitions. He also showed me a selection of these fake tails in the equipment room. (See attached picture.)

Training Equipment:

As per Mike's request, I specifically checked for elastic training equipment but did not observe any on the property.

Horse Condition:

All horses appeared to be in excellent condition, and no training activities were observed during the visit.

Follow-Up:

Mike from the NSPCA informed me that he plans to visit the Western Cape in early 2025 to conduct inspections of stable yards etc. He indicated that he would contact me to accompany him during these inspections. I sent him a picture of a horse that just finished training which Mike said was acceptable.

Conclusion:

The inspection revealed no signs of non-compliance or animal welfare concerns. The horses are well-cared for, and the facility is clean and adequately maintained.

ACTIONS

NO ACTION REQUIRED

REPORT OUTCOMES

Follow-up inspection to be conducted 2026-02-12

Follow-up inspection to be conducted 2026-02-12

INSPECTION ANIMALS

Description:

NIL