

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: Pinetown Pets
 Address: Shop 1 Wakefield House, Kings Road, Pinetown
 Name of Owner: George Harrower Cell: _____
 Tel: 0317025671 Fax/Email: _____
 Veterinarian: _____ Tel: _____

GENERAL

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

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

What treatment do Puppies get: _____
 Vaccine De-wormer Vaccine on Request None Other

What treatment do Kittens get: _____
 Vaccine De-wormer Vaccine on Request None Other

Quarantine Cages Provided: _____
 Yes No None Seen Separate Room

Rodent control: _____
 Open Poison/Poison Stations/Poison Pipes/Live Traps/Cat Traps

Suppliers of animals: Private & Public Members

Do they breed: _____
 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: Not Applicable

Reason for hand rearing: When Mother Dies

RODENTS

Numbers: Rats 6 Mice 5 Guinea Pigs 2 Hamsters 3

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 _____

Temperature _____ No Yes Describe
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 1 per day 1 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 Daily (1) 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 Not Observed

How are rodents transported from the shop Cages & Carriers
Injuries/ Poor Coat/ Listless /Runny Eyes/ Runny Nose / Diarrhoea

Where are unweaned rodents kept _____

Are unweaned rodents sold live? Good (with mother) Unacceptable (Plastic container/cage/box)

How are rodents killed (as reptile food)? They buy frozen rats Yes (Unacceptable)

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

PUPPIES, KITTENS & RABBITS

Puppy Numbers & Breeds: N/A

Kitten Numbers: N/A Rabbit Numbers: 3

Group structures

Group structures _____

Compatibility of Groups _____

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

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

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 _____

Diet for Puppies N/A Kittens _____

Diet for Rabbits: Others

Is the diet _____

Frequency of feed 1 Do they remove old food? Yes ✓ No

Are the animals fully weaned? Yes (feeding themselves well) Just Weaned Not Weaned

Condition of animals _____

Describe Concerns Not Observed

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

FISH

Hygiene of tanks _____ Good Fair Poor Excess Algae Waste Material (Faeces/Debris)

Is water clean _____ Clear (see fish clearly) Quite Clear Smelly Foamy (on surface) Cloudy

Is equipment (nets/heaters) in good repair _____ Good Fair Poor Other

Do the tanks have efficient aeration _____ Good (Bubbles) Fair (some bubbles) Unacceptable (No bubbles)

Do the tanks have filtration _____ Good Fair None

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

Are the tanks enriched _____ Plants Hiding Areas Rocks Gravel Other

Are the tanks overstocked _____ Good Fair Poor

Are lights turned off at night for fish to rest _____ Yes No

Do tanks have covers _____ Yes No

Water at proper level (should be small gap between top of water and cover) _____ Yes No

Condition of animals _____ Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe Above

Describe Concerns Not Observed Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe Above

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

Temperature Suitable _____ Goldfish 10°C – 22°C Tropical fish 23°C - 27°C

How often are the fish fed: _____ Daily Not during weekends (unacceptable)

Is enough species specific food given _____ Yes No Appears Acceptable

In the event of a power failure is the pet shop owner / attendant informed: _____ Yes No

How do staff handle animals _____ Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Any dead fish observed: Describe Reason No Dead Fish observed Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Compatibility of Groups _____ Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

How are fish destroyed when necessary BRAIN MACERATION 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
N/A

Describe

How do the buyers transport the fish from the shop _____ 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 No

BIRDS

Bird Numbers & Breeds

Lovebird (6), Parakeet (1), Budgie (3)

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

Private & Public Members

How do staff handle animals

Very Well Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Cleaning routine

1 per day 1 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

Wild seeds, Budgie mix

Frequency of feed:

DailyDo 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

not observedGood 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

Carriers & Cages

REPTILES

Reptile Numbers & Breeds _____

Group structures _____

Compatibility of Groups _____

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 _____

Hygiene of cages _____

Are reptiles left in full sun _____

Temperature Suitable _____

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

How do staff handle animals _____

Do they allow public to handle the animals _____

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

Venomous snakes: Are staff trained to handle _____

Security/safety _____

Are tank covers secure to prevent escape _____

Enrichment/Hiding Area _____

Bedding _____

Is bedding clean & absorbent _____

Cleaning routine _____

Heating _____

Safety of heat source _____

Water _____

Hygiene of water provision _____

Diet for reptiles _____

Source of prey _____

Frequency of feed _____

Condition of animals _____

Describe concerns _____

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 Bails 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: _____

Yes _____ No ☒

Comments:

Inspector: Lindokuhle Date: 19/02/2025 Time: 10:30

Follow up due _____

Comments: