

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: Creatures & Offers Petstock
 Address: 17 Old Main Road, Botmas Hill, Hillcrest
 Name of Owner: Richard Boynton Cell: 072 115 5022
 Tel: 031 765 6338 Fax/Email: _____
 Veterinarian: Carla Langley Tel: 082 3270171

GENERAL

What happens to sick animals: _____
☐ Sent to vet ☒ 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 Stations/Poison Pipes/Live Traps/Rat Traps
 Suppliers of animals: From Private & Public

Do they breed: _____
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Uncertain ☐ Single Sex Groups

If breeding, what happens to offspring: _____
☐ Hand-Reared ☒ Reared by Mother ☐ Sold Unweaned

If removed from hand rearing, from what age: Until 4 weeks

Reason for hand rearing: if Mother Dies

RODENTS

Numbers: Rats 20 Mice 25 Guinea Pigs 16 Hamsters 35

Group structures _____

Compatibility of Groups _____
 _____ Singly Mother & Young Separate Some sizes together All together

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

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

Hygiene of cages _____ Yes No

Ventilation _____ Good Fair Bad Excess Faeces Old/Soiled Food

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

Temperature _____ No Yes Describe

Do they allow breeding _____ Too Hot (Panting etc) Too Cold (Curled up/shivering) Comfortable (20°C- 24°C)

How do staff handle animals _____ Yes No Describe Above

Do they allow public to handle the animals _____ Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Hiding areas _____ Yes No Not Seen

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

Is bedding clean & absorbent _____ Sawdust Straw Newspaper Other

Cleaning routine _____ Yes / No Needs Changing Type: Sawdust/Newspaper/Other
 _____ per day _____ per week

Water _____

Hygiene of water provision _____ Non-tip Bowl Bowl too small Bowl too deep to reach water None available

Diet _____ Clean Dirty Very Dirty Green Algae Soiled

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

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 No Concerns

How are rodents transported from the shop _____ Box or Carrier
 _____ 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? _____ No (Good) Yes (Unacceptable)

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

CO2 (Unacceptable issue warning)

PUPPIES, KITTENS & RABBITS

Puppy Numbers & Breeds: _____

Kitten Numbers: _____ Rabbit Numbers: _____

Group structures _____

Compatibility of Groups _____
Singly Only with litter mates Some litters mixed All together

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

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

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

Ventilation _____
Good Fair Unacceptable Excess Faeces Old/Soiled Food

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

Temperature _____
No Yes Describe Above

Shelter provided in outside pens _____
Too Hot (Panting etc) Too Cold (Curled up/shivering) Comfortable

Do they allow breeding _____
Good Needs Improvement Poor None

How do staff handle animals _____
Yes No Describe Above

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 _____ Kittens _____
Clean Dirty Very Dirty Green Algae Soiled

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

FISH

Hygiene of tanks

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

Is equipment (nets/heaters) in good repair Clear (see fish clearly) Quite Clear Smelly Foamy (on surface) Cloudy

Do the tanks have efficient aeration Good Fair Poor Other

Do the tanks have filtration Good (Bubbles) Fair (some bubbles) Unacceptable (No bubbles)

Is water in tanks tested appropriately for temperature/pH/ammonia/nitrites/oxygen Yes Good Fair None Yes No

Are the tanks enriched

Are the tanks overstocked Plants Hiding Areas Rocks Gravel Other

Are lights turned off at night for fish to rest Good Fair Poor

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 Yes No

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

How often are the fish fed: Goldfish 10°C - 22°C; Tropical fish 23°C - 27°C

Is enough species specific food given Daily Not during weekends (unacceptable)

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

How do staff handle animals Yes No

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

Compatibility of Groups

How are fish destroyed when necessary Good 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 Describe

Is the chlorine removed from tap water before adding to tanks (Aerated for 24 hours or a de-chlorinating product used)? In strong plastic bags pumped with pure oxygen Yes No

BIRDS

Bird Numbers & Breeds

Finch (12), Parrots (3), Chickens (6)

Group structures

Compatibility of Groups

Single

In small groups

Large Groups

Same species

Mixed Species

Space

Good (No aggression/Anxiety)

Chasing/Bullying etc

Describe Above

Cage Maintenance

Good (Play & move normally)

Acceptable (stretch out, stand normally & turn)

Cramped/Too small

Hygiene of cages

Good

Fair (some repairs needed)

Poor (harmful features)

Ventilation

Good

Fair

Poor

Excess Faeces

Old/Spoiled Food

Are birds exposed to draughts

Good (Fresh & Clean)

No (Stuffy & Smelly)

Other

Are birds left in full sun

No

Yes

Describe Above

Temperature

No

Yes

Describe Above

Shelter provided in outside pens

Too Hot (Beak open etc)

Too Cold (Fluffed up/shivering)

Comfortable

Adequate perch space

Good

Needs Improvement

Poor

None

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

Good (all can rest on perches at same time)

Fair

Poor (birds on floor & cage sides)

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

No

Yes

Suppliers of birds

Public & Private

How do staff handle animals

Cleaning routine

Very Well

Good

Fair

Poor

Unacceptable

per day

per week

Water

Hygiene of water provision

Non-Tip Bowl

Hanging Bowl

Bowl too deep

Bowl too small

None Available

Diet for Birds

Cooked, Heat Mix, Wild seeds & Buds etc.

Clean

Dirty

Very Dirty

Green Algae

Soiled

Frequency of feed:

Daily

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

N/A

How are birds transported from the shop

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

Cars or Cages

REPTILES

Reptile Numbers & Breeds Green Mambas (2), Ratsnakes (4)

Group structures _____

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

Space Good (stretch & move normally) Good (No aggression/anxiety) Aggression Describe Above

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

Are reptiles left in full sun Good Fair Bad Excess Scat Excess Shedded Skin

Temperature Suitable No Yes Describe Above

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 Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Handled by: Adults ☒ Children (Age) No Only under supervision Yes No Not Seen

Venomous snakes: Are staff trained to handle _____

Security/safety Yes No

Are tank covers secure to prevent escape Double Door/ Single Door/ Door Latch/ Door Lock/ Back door/ Warning signs

Enrichment/Hiding Area Yes No

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

Is bedding clean & absorbent Snakes- non-abrasive material i.e. newspaper Lizards- gravel Describe Above

Cleaning routine 1 Yes No Needs Changing Other per day per week

Heating _____

Safety of heat source Heat Lamp/ Light Bulb/ Heat Tile/ Hot water Bottle/ Heating Pad/ Element/ None

Water No bare lamps

Hygiene of water provision Non-Tip Bowl Deep Wide Bowl Too Small None Available

Diet for reptiles Clean Dirty Filthy Green Algae Soiled

Source of prey Private Supply Live Prey (Unacceptable) Dead Animals Describe Above

Frequency of feed Depends on species Bought dead (from where) Killed on site (describe method) Other Do they remove old food? Yes ☒ No _____

Condition of animals _____

Describe concerns No Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe Bad Shedding

How are reptiles transported from the shop Plastic container that has vents Injuries/ Laboured Breathing/Holding mouth open/Nasal discharge

SPIDERS & SCORPIONS, INSECTS

Numbers & Breeds: _____

Group structures _____

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

Space _____
Good (No aggression/anxiety) Aggression/Fighting Describe Above
Good (Stretch/move normally) Acceptable (stretch out/turn normally) Too small (cramped together/no normal movement)

Cage/Tank Maintenance _____

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

Are Tarantulas protected from bright lights/full sun which will dry them out _____
Good Fair Bad Old/Soiled Food Mould

Temperature Suitable _____
No Yes Describe Above

How do staff handle animal _____
Note: Tropical species need more humidity than desert animals

Do they allow public to handle the animals _____
Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Handled by: Adults _____ Children (Age) _____
Yes No Not Seen
Only under supervision

Security/safety _____

Are tank covers secure to prevent escape _____
Door Latch Door Lock

Enrichment/Hiding Area _____
Yes No

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

Is substrate Clean & Absorbent _____

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

Heating _____

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

Water _____
No bare lamps One side of tank Over entire tank

Hygiene of water provision: _____
Non-tip Bowl Deep Wide Bowl Shallow Bowl Gel Balls None Available

Diet for Animals _____
Clean Dirty Filthy Green Algae Soiled

Source of Food _____
Live Prey Dead insects Food flakes Describe Above

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

Condition of animals _____
Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe Above

Describe concerns _____

How are animals transported from the shop: _____
Injuries/ Limbs missing/upside down Describe Other

Was a warning given? (Copy to be attached)

Yes _____ No ✓

Inspector:

Lindane 44

Date:

13/05/2025

Time:

13:00

Follow up due

Comments: