

SPRINGS SPCA
INSPECTOR REPORT

IHD908115

Complaint Reference No.

Building:
Street: 34 CORNER REID & VISAGIE STREET
Suburb: SUNDRA
Postal Code:
Inspector: CHARNE HAND
Date of Inspection: 2025-04-03
Time of Inspection: 12:19

RESPONDENT'S DETAILS

Name:
Company:
Identification:
Email:
Tel 1:
Tel 2: 0658079981

REPORT

Access Granted By: KRYNO ROUX
Comment:
Were Animals Seen on the Property: Yes
Relationship to Property Owner: Owner
Captured By: CHARNE HAND 2025-04-09 09:45

CHECKLISTS

CONFINEMENT OF ANIMALS	Caged - adequate space	Majority of the animals are confined in pens.
ADEQUATE SPACE AVAILABLE	Yes	
CLEAN LIVING ENVIRONMENT	No ***	Severe flooding in the pens causing muddy conditions.
WATER AVAILABLE	Yes	
ADEQUATE SHELTER AVAILABLE	Yes	
ANIMALS IN GOOD CONDITION	Yes	
VETERINARY PROBLEMS / HEALTH CO	No	

General Report Comments: The feedlot is currently facing several operational challenges, largely due to environmental factors such as drainage issues, flooding as a result of heavy rains, as well as ongoing efforts to improve infrastructure. The property, which contains cattle, sheep, and pigs, has been under close inspection by the Department of Environmental Management since November 2024. In November 2024, a blockage in the municipal drain caused contaminated water to flood onto the street, leading to an investigation by the Department of Environmental Management. It was determined that the blockage was the responsibility of the municipality, which was tasked with resolving the issue. The feedlot owners were advised not to attempt unblocking the drain themselves. Despite the resolution of this issue, ongoing rainfall continues to result in flooding, particularly in the cattle pens. This has created difficulties in managing manure and maintaining dry conditions in the pens .

Manure is regularly cleaned out of the pens and placed on the property opposite the feedlot (also owned by the owners) for drying before being removed weekly. However, heavy rains have caused vehicles to become stuck, further complicating the removal process. In response to the flooding, the feedlot owners have begun the construction of new pens on the opposite property. These pens will help alleviate overcrowding and provide drier, more manageable areas for the cattle. While the Department of Environmental Management has approved the construction of these pens, delays due to rainfall have hindered progress. The feedlot owners are working to complete the construction as soon as possible, with cement expected to be laid at the food and water troughs once the weather permits. Once completed, the cattle will be moved into the new pens, which are designed to provide drier conditions.

The ongoing flooding and movement between pens have impacted the cattle's ability to gain weight as required. The feedlot's goal is for the cattle to reach a target weight within 90 days before being sent for slaughter. However, the cattle are expending significant energy due to the challenging conditions, which has slowed their weight gain. To counter this, the feedlot owners are providing high-energy feed that is mixed on site and ensuring that water troughs are accessible with sheltered roofs to encourage consumption. Regular cleaning of food and water troughs further supports this effort.

In the past month, the feedlot received a batch of 10 cattle that arrived with Red Water disease. These cattle were treated with Forray, Dexa, and Finadine and have since recovered. Regular spraying for external parasites is carried out on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and cattle are dipped once a week during their weigh-in on Tuesdays. Additionally, 53 fly traps are placed throughout the property to reduce the presence of pests.

The feedlot has not purchased new cattle from the saleyards in the past three weeks due to concerns about where to place them, given the ongoing flooding of the pens. However, the feedlot is managing its current cattle by rotating them between pens and utilizing dry areas of the adjacent property. On Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 16 cattle are sent to slaughter each day, helping to free up space in the pens. The owners aim to move the remaining cattle by the upcoming weekend.

In addition to the challenges faced in the cattle pens, the feedlot also faces concerns related to the current management of the pig pens. These pens, while not as severely flooded as the cattle pens, are still impacted by muddy conditions as there is not an adequate drainage system. All pens are equipped with roofs and a water nipple system, which is currently in working order. Additionally, portable feed troughs are placed within the pens to provide access to food.

As part of the 6-month restructuring plan agreed upon with the Department of Environmental Management, a new piggery is under construction on the property opposite the feedlot. Although the new piggery is not yet fully completed, two pens are already ready to accommodate pigs. This will provide much-needed relief from the current muddy conditions. The new piggery is equipped with a gridded floor system, where manure and urine are deposited directly into drains below the floor. Once a week, water is flushed through the drains to empty the waste into the French drains, further supporting efficient waste management.

The sheep on the feedlot are housed in a roofed pen situated near the cattle pens, where they face similar challenges due to flooding. While the sheep pen is not as deeply affected by flooding as the cattle pens, the wet conditions still pose challenges for the feedlot.

In the pen, the sheep are provided with a clean plastic water trough, ensuring access to fresh water. Additionally, portable feed troughs containing concentrated feed are placed within the pens, supplementing the free-roam grazing areas where the sheep are allowed to graze during the day.

The ewes and lambs are kept in the pen for a couple of days after birth to ensure they are strong

enough for free roaming. This temporary confinement in the roofed pen helps protect the lambs from exposure to the elements and flooding while they are still weak. Once the lambs are stronger, they are allowed to join the rest of the flock in the grassy areas during the day.

ACTIONS

WELFARE CHECK

Feedlot is actively addressing the environmental conditions.

REPORT OUTCOMES

Follow-up inspection to be conducted 2025-04-08

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INSPECTION ANIMALS

Description:

380 x CATTLE (CATTLE) - UNSTERILISED CONDITION: SATISFACTORY

Description:

100 x GOATS / SHEEP (SHEEP) - UNSTERILISED (COLOUR: WHITE) CONDITION: SATISFACTORY

Description:

150 x PIGS (PIG) - CONDITION: SATISFACTORY