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REPORT: DE OUDE WELLINGTON, R303, WELLINGTON

Complaint: Horses in very wet paddocks. Horses have no shelter not even a tree. No horse jackets. Several birds in cages including Macaws, Cockatoos, parakeets, with little to no shelter. Cages too small. Goffin Cockatoos has no flight ability and access to ground. Scarlet Macaw in poor condition.

Date of Complaint Received: 16 July 2024 – 09:30

Date investigated: 16 July 2024 – 16:00

LOCATION: MAIN HOUSE AT DE OUDE WELLINGTON

Owner: Mr. Rolf Shumacher (Cellphone number/s: 083 237 3152; 084 343 4630) and Mrs. Zhu-zhu (Chong-Zhu) (ID number: 7207051189185)

Animals seen:

- Birds: Parakeets, Cockatiels, Macaws, Cockatoos, Ringnecks etc.
- Dogs:
 1. Gino a brown male Boerboel;
 2. Einstein a male Saint Bernard;
 3. Crystal Female Husky

General observations:

Trainee Inspector Hugh Lewis ("Lewis") and I, Inspector Elani Graham ("Graham") arrived at the Oude Wellington Farm ("the property"). We noticed the horses in the distance while we drove towards the Main building. The horses are kept on the property but called Andamar Stud. We then arrived at the restaurant and knocked on the door, no one answered. We then heard someone talking around the corner of the restaurant.

We knocked on the door and were greeted by one of the workers. We introduced ourselves and we were invited in and guided towards the owner of the farm, Mr Rolf Shumacher ("Schumacher"). We noticed two large breed dogs inside his office in the main house; one Boerboel x named Gina and one St. Bernard named Einstein who were in good condition. There was also a Scarlet Macaw free to roam the house, kept in the kitchen area.

We introduced ourselves to Shumacher and explained the reason we were there. He then understood and explained to us that the horse owners are separate owners, belonging to Mrs. Marli Louw ("Louw") and the birds belong to his wife Mrs Chong-Zhu ("Zhu-zhu"). When asked about the horses, he mentioned those are not his horses but someone who's named Marli Louw.

When asked to see the birds he called his Zhu-zhu to show us the birds. When she arrived, she was seemingly very annoyed. We introduced ourselves and explained why we were there. She seemed very confused and kept telling us that other people's animals make more noise than their animals, We explained that we are there for the welfare of the birds and not for the noise. She then seemed very irritated, and her husband explained to her why we are there. She also mentioned that she doesn't speak English fluently as she is Chinese, but we picked up that she does understand what we are saying, and her responses points out that she can fully interpret what we say and respond.

We then saw the Scarlet Macaw who are seemingly very attached to her climb on her shoulder. She explained that she owns the following type of exotic birds: Moustache Parakeets, Cockatiels, Sun Conures, Parrots, Parakeets, Ringnecks and Cockatoos. We asked her if we could take a look at the rest of the birds, and she complied. She took us to a spot on the farm next to their private house. She allowed us inside the large enclosure with about 20 exotic birds. Whilst taking pictures, she mentioned that she doesn't want us taking pictures which we then stopped immediately therefore no further photos were taken or uploaded. We noticed in the big cage that there were very little environmental enrichment including perching space and toys. She guided us back to the house where she showed us the fresh fruits, nuts, supplements, bird-specific feed., etc. All her food was in bulk and had minimal sunflower seeds mixed into it. Therefore, I do think the birds leave the sunflower seeds as this was mainly left and visible in their feed bowl.

We then asked to see the rest of the birds that we noticed while walking through towards the main house. She then led us to them, and we noticed that the different breeds are kept separately in smaller cages outside. Some of the bird enclosures had excess faeces; some of them did not have any form of alternative shelter like nesting boxes to protect them against the elements including the Musastache parakeets. When asked how often the cages are cleaned, she mentioned that she employs someone once a week in order to clean the bird cages. One of the birds, a sun conure, had loss of feathers which could possibly be a veterinary concern. She mentioned she uses Cape Exotic Animal Hospital (CEAH) in Durbanville as a veterinarian.

We then walked back to the main house as it was raining to discuss the concerns found at the time of our inspection. We mentioned the Sun Conure needs veterinary treatment for its feather loss as he was last seen by a veterinarian more than a year ago according to Zhu-zhu. Zhu-zhu became very hostile and mentioned that she knows her birds and that she cannot pay R1500 just for a test. She also then went upstairs to get a box filled with medicines for the birds for stress, fighting as well as vitamins. She then claimed they do not have funds to fix the bird enclosures as well as take the bird to the veterinarian. We then mentioned that it is her responsibility as owner to make sure all her animals are in good condition because it's her choice to own different types of birds. We then called Shumacher and explained to him the reason for issuing warning and he seemed very sarcastic but understanding.

We then issued **Warning# 022** to:

1. Ensure to provide extra ropes, environmental enrichment and boxes(shelter) for the big aviary within 14 days.
2. Ensure to provide adequate shelter for the Mustache parakeets within 14 days.
3. Provide the Sun Conure with veterinary treatment as it has feather loss within 72 hours.
4. Ensure to clean all the enclosures properly from excess faeces within 7 days. This includes the walls, perches and boxes.

LOCATION: ANDAMAR STUD

The owners were not present at the time of our inspection and the gate was closed. We could see one horse without water, adequate shelter and cracked hooves. We also saw a few horses in the distance but did not have access to area.

We left **Warning# 038** on the gate to:

1. Contact me within 24 hours to discuss the concerns regarding your dogs and horses.

FOLLOW-UP INSPECTION ON 17 JULY 2024 AT 15:00

LOCATION: ANDAMAR STUD

Owner: Ms Annelie Daley : Cell #: +353 (89) 953 3183

Manager: Marli Louw: Cell #: 079 727 8537

Veterinarian: Zandri Snyman (WAHG): 021 864 1118

Farrier: Ernie Smith 063 809 8098
They do this every 8 to 10 weeks.

Physiotherapist: Jade Ferreira (Equinelibrium): 079 523 7675
They use her when necessary.

Dentist: Hannes: 076 9453133
Use annually or more often depending on which horse needs it more regularly.

Animals seen:

- 30 Horses: 17 mares, 3 stallions, 1 gelding, 6 colts
- 4 Dogs:
 1. Rocco a sterilized male Rhodesian Ridgeback
 2. Remi a sterilized male Rottweiler
 3. Romi a sterilized male Rottweiler
 4. Vlooi a black and white sterilized female cross breed.

General observations:

Trainee Inspector Lewis and I, Inspector Graham arrived at Andamar Stud on Oude Wellington Brandy Estate. We met with the equine manager called Marli Louw ("Louw") to show us the premises and the horses. I explained to her what the complaint was about and then we started walking through the enclosures from the top. They have 30 horses in total of which 3 are stallions (kept in their own enclosures), 1 gelding (kept with mates), 9 colts (kept with mothers) and 17 mares. They mainly breed horses as it is a stud. The stud is owned by Anneme Daley who travels between her two studs in Ireland and South Africa. She is in Ireland at the moment. They have signed a 10 year contract with the property owner Rolf Shumacher to keep their horses there. They have 3 grooms that stay on the property.

They have a container containing their tack for the horses and an enclosed building with two stables for cases of isolation. There were two horses in there at the time of our inspection as they need to be fed separately. This building also contains the horse feed. Horse feed were dry and consists of a variety of oathay, lucern and percentages. The horses have grass and hanging nets inside their enclosures aside from their main feed throughout the day. All horses had access to fresh dam water and have very large enclosures with no trees or shelter. It is slanted terrain but massive. Some horses are shod but most are not.

The stallions are kept separately from other horses in smaller enclosures at the top. There were about 10 colts and mother's in one enclosure. Some of their hooves were cracked and starting to get long.

They got a new batch of horses the previous week which were kept in a total separate camp away from all other horses, in front of the guesthouses. There was one horse named Ameera that was part of this batch that has swayback but they do not plan to ride her at all. Their

hooves were also longer than the resident horses. This is probably the main horses the complainant saw by the guesthouses.

Further away were another massive camp where other mares were kept.

I then discussed the matter of shelter and the hooves and asked whether they had plans in line to fix this issue. Louw told me they have tried making shelter with shade cloth but the wind destroys it very easily. They cannot plant trees and do what they want as Mr Shumacher is quite difficult to work with. The horses cannot be kept in stables as they mostly buy and breed wild horses that would injure themselves in stables. I asked about building a simple veranda with poles and roofs and she said they already got quotes but they want to build something extremely sturdy as the wind is very destructive. They need to wait for drier weather to cement the posts in the clay ground which is understandable. She said they might be able to build the shelters by end of August 2024. Another thing we did observe was a very old dilapidated structure that was previously used as stables. With the previous weeks storm the structure collapsed and is too dangerous to use. Therefore, they want to take the weather and possible future collapses into account before building shelter.

They also said the horses will be seen by a farrier next week.

I issued **Warning #025** to:

As discussed with Marli Louw by 2 September 2024:

- 1) Ensure that all enclosures have adequate shelter for the horses.
- 2) Ensure the horses hooves are done by a farrier within 14 days. Provide us with proof of this via email.

Marli signed and accepted the warning.

FOLLOW-UP INSPECTION ON 19 JULY 2024 AT 11:00

LOCATION: WELLINGTON SPCA

Rolf Shumacher and his wife visited the SPCA this morning at 11h00 and discussed the warning with Manager Elizabeth Down and Trainee Inspector Hugh Lewis. Items discussed was feeding, all birds get individual and specific fresh fruit daily.

Cleaning of the cages is done by one dedicated lady every day of the week but Sundays, weather is proving difficult in winter and plans have been made to cement the edge along one side when weather clears. Shelter items were discussed, there is shaded areas but also open areas for the sun and some do enjoy the rain. Cages have been specifically constructed so that the birds are able around inside. Video was show of additional perches now in the cages, branches not used as certain birds eat them. We discussed the one that was noted, she seemed to miss understand and said if they needed to shade cloth the other side, they would but it was found that there was no shelter inside the cage. They do have what she refers to as a "breeding box" but all they do is peck at it until destroyed, they do not use for shelter. They wanted to make sure we that we knew the birds were pets and a hobby, not commercially run breeder. Some do procreate more, like the cockatiels, does not make money and they are responsible when finding homes, like they always as for a photo of the cages to make sure enough space.

They indicated that they use Cape Centre for Avian, Reptiles and Exotics, the sun conure that a vet check was requested was seen by Dr Marika there. This bird was seen with a sore leg (demonstrated how its foot got stuck in a rope toy) During treatment, he still would peck at the wound, so a cone was constructed for him to wear to prevent that and wound fully healed (video shown). Cone caused feather loss around that area. Meds were show that have been and still are administered but feather growth is slow but happening. Asked if we could monitor over time to show that it is getting better, not contagious to other birds. Emailed CARE to request confirmation of treatment.

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care
CENTRE
FOR AVIAN
REPTILES
& EXOTICS

Care Veterinarian Services Incorporate
Reg no: 2021/417236/21
Email: info@birdclinic.co.za
+27(21)8755063
Bellmeadow Estate, Protea Road, Klammuts, 7625
PO Box 1470, Southern Paarl, 7624, Western Cape

Tax Invoice

Middlemosts (Pty) Ltd (7188) Wellington Western cape 7655 Phone:0843434630
Total Due: RAND 0.00

Invoice No: 70761 Jan 20, 2023

Date	Description	Qty	Fees
Jan 20, 2023	Encounter: Wellness Care		
Jan 20, 2023	Glass Bottle	1.00	6.61
Jan 20, 2023	Clavet 250mg & SS	3.00	129.60
Jan 20, 2023	Doxybiotic Plus Powder 50G	1.00	148.27
Jan 20, 2023	CONSULT	1.00	499.43

Note: Interest of 16.0% per Annum will be charged on Balance> 30 days old.

Sub Total RAND 783.91
VAT @ 15% on 783.91 (+) 117.58
Total Amount RAND 901.49

Payment Received - By Visa (-) 901.49
Total Due RAND 0.00

Payment Date	Payment Type	Receipt #	Payment received against # 70761 (RAND)
Jan 20, 2023	By Visa	63995	901.49
Total payment received			901.49

Invoice No	Plan Item	Quantity	Cost	Discount	Coupon	Tax	Total	Date
70761	Doxybiotic Plus Powder 50G	1.00	148.27	0.00	0.00	22.24	170.51	Jan 20, 2023
Total							170.51	

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Follow ups to be done:

- 30 July 2024: Follow-up on Exotic birds belonging to Zhuzhu including an updated veterinary report on the Sun Conure.
- 31 July 2024: Follow-up on Horses's hooves.
- 2 September 2024: Follow-up on horses' shelter.

Please find photos below.

Kind regards,

Insp. E Graham
Inspectorate Department
Wellington SPCA

PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

Address photos taken: Oude Wellington Brandy, R303, Wellington

Owner of animal/s: Mr Rolf Shumacher and Mrs Chong-zhu

Date photos taken: 16 July 2024

Photos taken by: Insp. E Graham

Photos taken with: Oppo Reno 10 5G Cell Phone



Photo 1: Entrance of property.



Photo 2: Birds kept in outside enclosures.

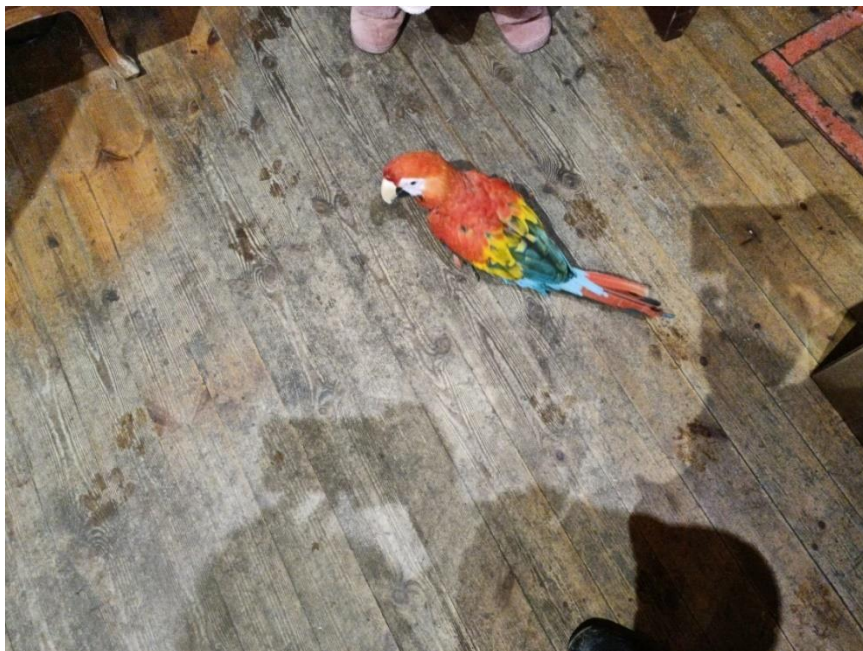


Photo 3: Scarlet Macaw in the main house kitchen.



Photo 4: Scarlet Macaw's enclosure inside the main house.



Photo 5: Einstein (St Bernard) inside the house.



Photo 6: Gina (Boerboel Mix) inside the house.



Photo 7: Aviary next to the main house.



Photo 8: Cockatoos next to the feeding station with old sunflower seed shells and water in the aviary next to the house.



Photo 9: Macaw seen sitting on one nesting box inside aviary next to the house.



Photo 10: Entrance of aviary with one long rope seen on the top.



Photo 11: Aviary next to main house seen from the entrance (Zhuzhu seen in left bottom corner).



Photo 12: Aviary next to main house seen from the furthest end (Zhuzhu seen in middle of photo).



Photo 13: Grey Stallion kept in enclosure outside of Andamar Stud.



Photo 14: Grey Stallion kept in enclosure outside of Andamar Stud water bucket.



Photo 15: Warning left on Andamar Stud's gate.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

Address photos taken: Andamar Stud, Oude Wellington Brandy, R303, Wellington

Owner of animal/s: Ms. Annemie Daley

Date photos taken: 17 July 2024

Photos taken by: Insp. E Graham

Photos taken with: Oppo Reno 10 5G Cell Phone



Photo 16: Delapidated shelter destroyed by storm.



Photo 17: Two isolation stables, feed room and office.



Photo 18: Fresh feed.



Photo 19: Top view of horse enclosures (open fields seen with no adequate shelter).



Photo 20: Four dogs belonging to Annemie Daley included in complaint. Shelter seen in back right bottom corner.



Photo 21: Waste heap kept away from horse enclosures.



Photo 22: Chestnut Stallion kept separately in top enclosure.



Photo 23: Colts and mares kept together with slightly overgrown hooves.



Photo 24: Buckets of water inside enclosure filled with dam water.



Photo 25: Oathay nets in enclosures for horses.



Photo 26: Ameera with swayback in isolation camp.



Photo 27: Overgrown hooves of new arrivals in isolation camp.