

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: Wellington Pet Shop
 Address: 72 Main rd, Wellington
 Name of Owner: Gerhard Koots Cell: 083 348 6944
 Tel: 021 864 2364 Fax/Email: info @ wpetshop.co.za
 Veterinarian: Dr Mayke van Zyl Tel: 084 840 0048

GENERAL

What happens to sick animals: self-medicate, or hopefully take to the veterinarian
Self-medicate New owners must treat Taken to vet

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

What treatment do Puppies get: N/A
Vaccine De-wormer Vaccine on Request None Other

What treatment do Kittens get: N/A
Vaccine De-wormer Vaccine on Request None Other

Quarantine Cages Provided: There were empty tanks & cages
Yes No None Seen Separate Room

Rodent control: None seen
Open Poison/Poison Stations/Poison Pipes/Live Traps/Rat Traps

Suppliers of animals: Private breeders

Do they breed: Accidental
Yes / No / Uncertain Single Sex Groups

If breeding, what happens to offspring: Sell
Hand-Reared / Parent Reared / Sold Unweaned

If removed for hand rearing, from what age: —

Reason for hand rearing: —

FISH

Hygiene of tanks Excess algae and old filter cotton seen
Good Fair Poor Excess Algae Waste Material (Faeces/Debris)

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

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

Do the tanks have efficient aeration Yes, but one had none
Good (Bubbles) Fair (some bubbles) Unacceptable (No bubbles)

Do the tanks have filtration Yes, but one had none
Good Fair None

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

Are the tanks enriched Some are, but some have none
Plants Hiding Areas Rocks Gravel Other

Are the tanks overstocked No
Good Fair Poor

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

Do tanks have covers Yes
Yes No

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

Condition of animals Fair
Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe Above

Describe Concerns None seen
Unusual growths, patches or spots/Wounds/Abnormal swimming/ Over or Under activity/Bloating/Fin damage/Panting at surface/Rubbing/Clamped fins

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

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

Is enough species specific food given Yes
Yes No Appears Acceptable

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

How do staff handle animals Not observed
Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Any dead fish observed: Describe Reason No

Compatibility of Groups same species kept together
Good Fair Poor (Chasing/Bullying/Finning/Damaged fins)

How are fish destroyed when necessary Isolated and left to treat / or die. Educated about clove oil.
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 bags with oxygen
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
Yes No

BIRDS

Bird Numbers & Breeds Canaries, lovebirds, parakeets, budgie, quail, finches, doves

Group structures Same species, in small groups
Singly In small groups Large Groups Same species Mixed Species

Compatibility of Groups Looked fine
Good (No aggression/anxiety) Chasing/Bullying etc Describe Above

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

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

Hygiene of cages Excess faeces, food contamination
Good Fair Poor Excess Faeces Old/Spoiled Food

Ventilation Good
Good (Fresh & Clean) No (Stuffy & Smelly) Other

Are birds exposed to draughts Yes
No Yes Describe Above

Are birds left in full sun No
No Yes Describe Above

Temperature Room temperature
Too Hot (Beak open etc) Too Cold (Fluffed up/shivering) Comfortable

Shelter provided in outside pens N/A
Good Needs Improvement Poor None

Adequate perch space Yes
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
No Yes

Suppliers of birds Private breeders

How do staff handle animals Not observed

Cleaning routine once (they claim) per day
Very Well Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Water Bowl on floor too big, water hanging bowl
Non-Tip Bowl Hanging Bowl Bowl too deep Bowl too small None Available

Hygiene of water provision Green algae on bowls
Clean Dirty Very Dirty Green Algae Soiled

Diet for Birds sunflower seed / canary feed

Frequency of feed: permanent Do they remove old food: Yes No ☒ X
Note: Check to see that there is seed in the food dish, not just empty shells left by the birds.

Is the diet poor and possibly not fresh
Good & Nutritious Poor Not Fresh Not Enough Other

Are the animals fully weaned Yes
Yes (feeding themselves well) Just weaned Under-age

Condition of animals Canary was poor (swollen eyes)
Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe Above

Describe Concerns Sick birds
Injuries/ Poor Feather Condition/Feather Loss/Lethargic/Runny or Swollen Eyes/Nose

How are birds transported from the shop Cages / boxes

ON COMPLETION OF INSPECTION COMPLETE THIS SECTION:

043

Was a warning given? (Copy to be attached)

Yes

✓

No

Comments:

The overall conditions of the fish and the birds were unhygienic. We saw a sick canary. Excess faeces were built up inside the cages, water bowls had algae and the food bowls ~~has~~ was too big (birds climb in it and defecate in the food), species specific feed was needed (mostly sunflower seeds were given to the larger parakeet breeds).

The fish tanks were not clean, algae was seen even on the lids and excess cotton.

One goldfish was kept in a very small tank (made for a single siamese fighter) with no filter, light or pump. Some of the tanks had no hiding spaces / environmental enrichment.

Inspector: Elani Graham & Hugh Lewis Date: 27/8/2024 Time: 13:30

Follow up due 28/8/2024

Comments: