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WARNING # 070

To: Monnapula Thebe	Date: 20 March 2025
Address: Helderstroom Correctional Services (GPS Coördinates: -34.072033, 19.365387), Helderstroom Road, Helderstroom	
Tel No: 028 215 1021	Cell No: 071 473 4105
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As per the inspection conducted at the facility on 19 March 2025:

1. During the inspection we were informed that the castration of the male calves take place after 3 months of being born. This is not in accordance the SANS codes set out for the welfare of dairy cattle which states that the rubber band method is prohibited for calves over one week of age (7 days). This must cease immediately and the protocols surrounding castration of calves must be reviewed and amended accordingly with the assistance of a veterinarian.

Refer to Sections 2(1)(a) of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962 and Section 8.5.2 of SANS 1694:2018 set out for the welfare of dairy cattle.

2. The sheep were not provided with protection against heat cold and weather. All animals must have access to protection against inclement weather conditions. Feedback as to when and how this will be rectified must be provided to us by 27 March 2025.

Refer to Section 2(1)(b) of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962.

3. We were informed that there is no means to emergency slaughter severely compromised animals, apart from loading them and taking them to the abattoir at your facility. Severely compromised animals are not to be transported and a contingency plan must be in place for the emergency slaughtering for such animals. Feedback as to how this will be rectified and managed going forward must be forwarded to us by 27 March 2025.

Refer to Section 2(1)(m)(i) of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962 and Section 3.2.9. of SANS 1488:2014 set out for the humane transportation of livestock by road.

4. In addition to Point 3, we did observe a piglet that was busy dying. When asked what they do in a case like this, it was claimed that they leave the piglet with

the mother and other piglets until it dies and then remove the carcass. They do this if other medicinal efforts to save the piglet do not work. We then humanely destroyed this piglet and advised the piggery to obtain their own captive bolt pistol and knife to perform emergency slaughters when needed in cases like this. Feedback as to how this will be rectified and managed going forward must be forwarded to us by 27 March 2025.

Refer to Section 2(1)(a) of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962 and Section 4.3.2.1 (f) of SANS 1478:2016 set out for the pig welfare.

5. During the inspection of the truck used to transport animals from the prison to the abattoir, it was noted that the truck had no non-slip gridding, one of the rails was broken and rubbish was in the back of the truck which can cause injury to the animals. Non-slip gridding must be placed/ fitted in the truck, the rails should be fixed and the rubbish removed in such a manner as to not cause any injuries or harm to the animals. In the case of the transportation of pigs, the vehicle shall have protection from direct sun at all times. Feedback as to how this will be rectified and managed going forward must be forwarded to us by 27 March 2025.

Refer to Section 2(1)(m)(i) of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962 and Section 4(d) and (e), 5.3.(a) and (b) and 5.5 of SANS 1488:2014 set out for the humane transportation of livestock by road.

6. During the inspection we observed a lot of rubble (bricks, poles and stones) in some of the enclosures containing dairy cattle. This facility in general is also dilapidated. The one metal gate where calves were kept was also rusted and had sharp protruding edges. The fencing and maintenance of the outside enclosures and the indoor calf housing unit have protruding wires and need to be replaced. This hazardous material poses a risk of injury to the animals and must be removed/replaced. Feedback as to how this will be rectified and managed going forward must be forwarded to us by 27 March 2025.

Refer to Section 2(1)(e) of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962 and Section 7.1.3 and 7.2.7. and 8.1.2 of SANS 1694:2018 set out for the welfare of dairy cattle.

7. The outside and inside holding facilities at the dairy farm had excess faeces that need to be cleaned as this can cause parasitic conditions and then regularly thereafter. Feedback as to how this will be rectified and managed going forward must be forwarded to us by 27 March 2025.

Refer to Section 2(1)(c) of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962 and Section 7.1.5. and 7.2.3. of SANS 1694:2018 set out for the welfare of dairy cattle.

8. During the inspection we were informed about a dire situation with regard to the feed of the animals in general. We noted that only 180kg of Dairy Calf feed

were in storage, only about 30 bales of lucerne were in storage and no other additional feed were available for the dairy cows.

In conjunction with this, it was mentioned that the irrigation system is out of order and thus, they cannot grow crops for feeding their own animals and must manually fill their water troughs for the animals kept on the farm. This is of major concern and feedback as to how this will be rectified and managed going forward must be forwarded to us by 27 March 2025.

Refer to Section 2(1)(c) of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962 and Section 5 of SANS 1694:2018 set out for the welfare of dairy cattle.

9. We were informed that the fridges/freezers to keep the meat of the animals are broken and in need of repair. This leads to the slaughter of animals being delayed and can have dire consequences. Feedback as to how this will be rectified and managed going forward must be forwarded to us by 27 March 2025.

Refer to Section 2(1)(a) of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962 and Meat Safety Act 40 of 2000.

10. When pigs are being slaughtered, they have a clear view of the pigs being stunned and the carcasses inside the abattoir. Ensure to provide visual obstructions of this area as discussed with Mr. Mrubata. Feedback as to how this will be rectified and managed going forward must be forwarded to us by 27 March 2025.

Refer to Section 2(1)(a) of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962.

This warning has been issued in terms of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 169 of 1993.

Failure to comply with this warning may render you liable for prosecution under the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962 and/or Performing Animals Protection Act 24 of 1935.

Any person who:- obstructs, hinders or resists an officer authorised in terms of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962 or conceals any animal shall be guilty of an offence in terms of Section 8(4) of the aforementioned Act.

SIGNED & ACCEPTED BY: Sent via email
PLACE: Helderstroom DATE: 20 March 2025
INSPECTOR: Elani Graham