

WELLINGTON SPCA
INSPECTOR REPORT

IGLN09270

Complaint Reference No.

Building:
Street: BLOUVLEI ROAD
Suburb: WELLINGTON
Postal Code: 7655
Inspector: INSPECTOR ONE
Date of Inspection: 2025-05-30
Time of Inspection: 10:30

RESPONDENT'S DETAILS

Name: RENI HILDENBRAND
Company: HILDENBRAND WINE AND OLIVE ESTATE
Identification: 4503110056107
Email: INFO@WINE-ESTATE-HILDENBRAND.CO.ZA
Tel 1:
Tel 2: 0826566007

REPORT

Access Granted By: Reni Hildenbrand
Comment:
Were Animals Seen on the Property: Yes
Relationship to Property Owner: Owner
Captured By: INSPECTOR ONE 2025-06-09 16:48

CHECKLISTS

WATER AVAILABLE	Yes, but dirty / not potable	
ADEQUATE SHELTER AVAILABLE	Yes	
ADEQUATE SPACE AVAILABLE	No ***	Rabbits, guinea pigs and crow
CLEAN LIVING ENVIRONMENT	No ***	Parasitic conditions
ANIMALS IN GOOD CONDITION	No ***	Veterinary concerns
VETERINARY PROBLEMS / HEALTH CO	Yes ***	Mites, skin issues, injuries, dead
CONFINEMENT OF ANIMALS	Caged - inadequate space ***	Wild and farm animals

Mark Syce from COGH SPCA arrived to provide assistance. I, Elani took Enzo Koopman as assistance for the confiscation. We went to Wellington SAPS and got Sgt Pietersen and Const Jones for assistance.

We all then drove to Hildenbrand Farm. The gate was open so we went to the front of her house. One of the workers came to us to see what was happening. I informed him that we are there with a court order and executing it. I asked whether Reni is there and he said she is not as she is at a meeting in Cape Town. He said he will phone her to inform her. SAPS told him that we can execute the court order without her being there.

I then went to the house and entered. There was a cleaning lady who I also informed to not obstruct us as we need to inspect all animals. She showed us the two rooms where the cats are kept.

We went to the one room next to the front door and found cats in an enclosed dark room. It smelled of faeces and urine. They had access to water and food. The litter bowls were dirty and there were cobwebs and faeces behind the cupboards. The cats did not appear to be sick. Outside this room, there was a Ringneck parakeet in a cage and an African Grey in a cage. The ringneck's water bowl was dirty with dirty water.

We then went to Reni's bedroom where most and the rest of the cats were kept. Her room also smelled of cat urine and faeces. As we looked for the cats previously adopted from SPCA we could also see faeces, cobwebs etc under and on top of furniture. The cat litter trays were also dirty and in need of cleaning. I observed a Tabby cat named Wilde to be sneezing. We confiscated this cat immediately and locked him in the car.

We then proceeded to the Wendy house where the rabbits and guinea pigs are kept. The Wendy has two entrances of which one has a small room with cages to the roof and the other is larger with some cages containing animals. There was a worker busy cleaning. I explained to him why we were there. As I approached him, I observed a dead guinea pig in the small room on top of the cages. Mark, Enzo and I then went inside to inspect the animals that appear to be injured or sick and remove them. The guinea pigs and rabbits mostly run in between each other on the floor. On this side some rabbits were kept in small cages separate from other animals. We found quite a few with skin conditions and injuries. We then moved to the bigger side to inspect the animals. Some guinea pigs were kept in separated cages that was raised from the floor. There were also a cage with doves and another cage with birds. We started going through these animals to see if any are injured or diseased. At this time, Reni arrived and approached me. She could not understand why we are there and how I went everywhere in her house. I tried explaining the court order but she was very obstructive and hostile. She kept claiming that she looks after her animals very well and rescued them. I asked Enzo and Mark to lift some of the cages in the Wendy house and when they did this another dead rabbit was found. I called Reni to see this and she immediately shifted the blame to her cleaner. The animals were mixed by sex and clearly breeding non stop. There was one double story cage. When I checked the animals here, I noticed the bedding to be soaked with urine and faeces. The wires were also protruding. Most of the cages are made from wood that stays wet and causes parasitic conditions. Here we ended up confiscating 69 animals of which 57 were guinea pigs. We found 3 dead guinea pigs and 1 dead rabbit. During this time, we asked for more help from colleagues. Anika Steyn, Luciano Diedericks and Sheldon Diedericks arrived to assist us.

I asked Reni where the sheep and crow are kept. She claimed the crow flew away and did not want to say where the sheep was. We then told her that we will find it even if we have to search the entire farm.

We first went to a guinea pig enclosure that was next to the house containing guinea pigs. Here we found more guinea pigs with skin conditions and a dead guinea pig. We confiscated all of these guinea pigs.

We then went towards where the poultry is kept. Next to this, I noticed the small cage where the Pied crow was kept and he was there and did not fly away. He barely had space to fly and exhibit natural behaviour. His enclosure was dirty. I then confiscated the crow. Reni did try to stop me by standing in front of the cage. We had to remove her.

We then went to inspect the chicken, geese, turkeys and ducks. We noticed two silky chickens kept to the side away from the other birds. Their living environment was dirty and they had several white growths around the eyes and feet. They appeared not to be able to walk. We then went to the main

fowl enclosure. We found another white silky with white growths on her feet. We confiscated three chicken. All of the other bitds appeared to be fine. Their living conditions were dirty with old faeces and old wooden nest boxes. The swimming pond was also green and the water needs to be replaced.

After this we went to the sheep enclosure. We observed two dorper sheep that walked with extreme difficulty and had a matted coat. There were also two merinos that appeared to never have been shaved. The faeces were stuck to the wool by their anus. There were also goats in this envlosure. They had access to dirty green water and a half full 25liter bucket of clean water. There was no grazing or roughage available to them. We confiscated the two dorper sheep.

We then went to the horses. This entire time Reni was obstructive and hostile towards us trying to prevent us from taking animals. The horses had the least problems. There was a brown and a white horse that had a skin condition on their face. It appeared to be mite infestation that can be fixed with dectomax. The stables were dirty with old filth and cobwebs. There was one fly trap that was dried up inside the stable.

We then went to the vehicle to count the animals taken. This is when I issued the seizure notice and reni refused to sign this. By yhis time she had three additional men that were asking us several questions and trying to hinder our investigation. After I issued the seizure notice, I went back to the house to confiscate the three adipted animals invluding 2 cats and Thasie.

We then discovered she locked the house and prevented us from entering to take the animals. Matk and I went around the house and found an open window at the back. I vlimbed through the window and unlocked the back door for Mark to enter. We then went to the front door to give access to the others to assist us with the cats. Reni was shocked and triend to hinder us from entering her room to take the cats. We had to push her away as she kept her hand on the door handle and didnt want to get out of the way. Anika had to restrain her in order for us to enter. Mark, Enzo and I entered with the cat boxes and locked the door behind us. Reni was unavle to get in. After quite some time we found our two cats. We then took the cats out of the room. Sheldon took the cat box from us and she tried to geab his arms to obstruct him. I had to pry her hands off of his arms. We also took Thasie a white and black dog.

When we were ready to leave Reni informed us we have the wrong dog. We double checked the dog and realized she was right. When I asked about Thasie she said he was not on the property.

In total we confiscated 78 animals including the 4 dead ones.

SAPS escorted us back to base. Here we offloaded the cats. Mark took the two sheep to COGH SPCA. Anika and I took the rabbits, guinea pigs, chicken and crow to Exotic Vet Century City to be examined by Dr Karli. She is willing to charge for consumables only. OB number obtained by Wellington SAPS 3038/05/2025.

To gollow up within a 7 days to see whether Reni claims her animals and to send warning on Monday.

ACTIONS

ANIMAL/S SEIZED	06
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REPORT OUTCOMES

Follow-up inspection to be conducted	2025-06-02
ANIMAL(S) CONFISCATED	540/25 - 617/25

INSPECTION ANIMALS

Description:
NIL