

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: The Ark Petshop

Address: 212 Flora drive, Dannabay

Name of Owner: _____ Cell: _____

Tel: _____ Fax/Email: _____

Veterinarian: Dannabay Vets Tel: _____

GENERAL

What happens to sick animals: self medicate if needed
Self medicate New owners must treat Taken to vet

What happens to animals after hours: kept in shop
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: yes
Yes No None Seen Separate Room

Rodent control: n/a
Open Poison/Poison Stations/Poison Pipes/Live Traps/Rat Traps

Suppliers of animals: buy from other shops

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

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

If removed for hand rearing, from what age: n/a

Reason for hand rearing: n/a

RODENTS

Numbers: Rats _____ Mice _____ Guinea Pigs _____ Hamsters _____

Group structures _____
 _____ Singly Mother & Young Separate Same sizes together All together

Compatibility of Groups _____
 _____ Good (Play & Positive Interaction) Fighting Bullying Describe Above

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

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

Are cages raised off the ground to prevent handling/accidental kicking/reduce stress: _____
 _____ Yes No

Hygiene of cages _____
 _____ Good Fair Bad Excess Faeces Old/Soiled Food

Ventilation _____
 _____ Good (No Ammonia Smell) Fair Poor (Ammonia Smell)

Draughts _____
 _____ No Yes Describe

Temperature _____
 _____ Too Hot (Panting etc) Too Cold (Curled up/shivering) Comfortable (20°C- 24°C)

Do they allow breeding _____
 _____ Yes No Describe Above

How do staff handle animals _____
 _____ Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Do they allow public to handle the animals _____
 _____ Yes No Not Seen

Hiding areas _____
 _____ Good (Box/Plastic Container) Fair (not enough) Unacceptable (None) Other

Bedding _____
 _____ Sawdust Straw Newspaper Other

Is bedding clean & absorbent _____
 _____ Yes / No _____ Type: Sawdust/Newspaper/Other

Cleaning routine _____ per _____ per week

Water _____
 _____ Non-flowing Too small Bowl _____ Fresh water None available

Hygiene of water provision _____
 _____ Clean Dirty Very Dirty Green Algae Soiled

Diet _____
 _____ Good Pellets Roughage Fresh Vegetables/Vit C for Guinea Pigs (220mg/lit water daily)

Frequency of feed _____ Do they remove old food? Yes _____ No _____

Is the diet _____
 _____ Good & Nutritious Poor Not Fresh Not enough Other comments

Are the animals fully weaned _____
 _____ Yes (feeding themselves well) Just Weaned Under Age

Condition of animals _____
 _____ Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe Above

Describe Concerns _____
 _____ Injuries/ Poor Coat / Listless /Runny Eyes/ Runny Nose / Diarrhoea

How are rodents transported from the shop _____

Where are unweaned rodents kept _____
 _____ Good (with mother) Unacceptable (Plastic container/cage/box)

Are unweaned rodents sold live? _____
 _____ No (Good) Yes (Unacceptable)

How are rodents killed (as reptile food)? _____
 _____ **CO2 (Unacceptable issue warning)** Hitting on Head/live freezing Describe

PUPPIES, KITTENS & RABBITS

Puppy Numbers & Breeds: _____

Kitten Numbers: _____ Rabbit Numbers: _____

Group structures _____

Singly Only with litter mates Some litters mixed All together

Compatibility of Groups _____

Good (Play & Positive Interaction) Mixed Sizes Bullying Describe Above

Space _____

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

Cage Maintenance _____

Good Fair (some minor issues) Poor (harmful features)

Hygiene of cages _____

Good Fair Unacceptable Messy Faeces Old/Soiled Food

Ventilation _____

Good (Fresh air) Stagnant & Smelly Describe Above

Draughts _____

No Yes Describe Above

Temperature _____

Too Hot (Sweating etc) Too Cold (Curled up/shivering) Comfortable

Shelter provided in outside pens _____

Good Needs Improvement Poor None

Do they allow breeding _____

Yes No Describe Above

How do staff handle animals _____

Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Do they allow public to handle animals: Adults _____ Children (Age) _____ Under supervision _____

Floor construction: _____

Wood Concrete Chicken Mesh Weld Mesh Soil Other

Bedding: _____

Blankets Bed Carpet Soil Sawdust Straw Newspaper Other

Is Bedding Clean & Absorbent: _____

Yes No Needs Changing Other

Cleaning routine _____ per day _____ per week

Water _____

Non-Tip Bowl Bowl too small Bowl too deep to reach water None Available

Hygiene of water provision _____

Clean Dirty Very Dirty Green Algae Soiled

Diet for Puppies _____ Kittens _____

Diet for Rabbits _____

Quality Pellets Roughage Fresh Vegetables/Fruit Other

Is the diet _____

Good & Nutritious Poor Not Fresh Not Enough Other

Frequency of feed _____ Do they remove old food? Yes _____ No _____

Are the animals fully weaned? _____

Yes (feeding themselves well) Just Weaned Not Weaned

Condition of animals _____

Good Fair Poor Very Poor

Describe Concerns _____

Injuries/Poor Coat/Listless/Runny Eyes/Runny Nose/Diarrhoea

FISH

Hygiene of tanks very good

Is water clean clear

Is equipment (nets/heaters) in good repair good

Do the tanks have efficient aeration good

Do the tanks have filtration good

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

Are the tanks enriched No and education was given

Are the tanks overstocked not overstocked

Are lights turned off at night for fish to rest yes

Do tanks have covers yes

Water at proper level (should be small gap between top of water and cover) yes

Condition of animals good

Describe Concerns no concerns

Temperature Suitable suitable for type for specie

How often are the fish fed: daily

Is enough species specific food given yes

In the event of a power failure is the pet shop owner / attendant informed: yes

How do staff handle animals good

Any dead fish observed: Describe Reason none observed

Compatibility of Groups good

How are fish destroyed when necessary submersion in 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

How do the buyers transport the fish from the shop In strong bags

Is the chlorine removed from tap water before adding to tanks (Aerated for 24 hours or a de-chlorinating product used)?

BIRDS

Bird Numbers & Breeds _____

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

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

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

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

Hygiene of cages _____
 Good Fair Excess Faeces Old/Spoiled Food

Ventilation _____
 Good Fresh & Clean Stuffy & Smelly Other

Are birds exposed to draughts _____
 Yes Describe Above

Are birds left in full sun _____
 No Yes Describe Above

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

Shelter provided in outside pens _____
 Good Needs Improvement Poor None

Adequate perch space _____
 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 Yes

Suppliers of birds _____

How do staff handle animals _____

Cleaning routine _____
 Very Well Good Fair Poor Unacceptable
 per day per week

Water _____
 Non-Tip Bowl Hanging Bowl Bowl too deep Bowl too small None Available

Hygiene of water provision _____
 Clean Dirty Very Dirty Green Algae Soiled

Diet for Birds _____

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

Is the diet _____
 Good & Nutritious Poor Not Fresh Not Enough Other

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

Condition of animals _____
 Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe Above

Describe Concerns _____
 Injuries/ Poor Feather Condition/Feather Loss/Listless /Runny or Swollen Eyes/Nose

How are birds transported from the shop _____

REPTILES

Reptile Numbers & Breeds _____

Group structures _____

Singly In small groups Large Groups Same species Mixed Species

Compatibility of Groups _____

Good (No aggression/anxiety) Aggression Describe Above

Space _____

Good (stretch & move normally) Acceptable (stretch out, turn normally) Too small (cramped, no normal movement)

Note: The cage / tank should be large enough for the entire body of snakes, more than double in lizards

Cage/Tank Maintenance _____

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

Hygiene of cages _____

Good Fair Bad Excess Scat Excess Shedded Skin

Are reptiles left in full sun _____

No Yes Describe Above

Temperature Suitable _____

Note: Snakes tropical 27°C – 38°C; other 20°C– 35°C; Lizards 30°C-35°C

How do staff handle animals _____

Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Do they allow public to handle the animals _____

Yes No Not Seen

Handled by: Adults _____ Children (Age) _____ Only under supervision _____

Venomous snakes: Are staff trained to handle _____

No

Security/safety _____

Double Door/ Single Door Door Latch/ Door Lock/ Back Door/ Warning signs

Are tank covers secure to prevent escape _____

Yes No

Enrichment/Hiding _____

Litter / Wood / Box / Mats / Tunnels Describe Other

Bedding _____

Snake Non-abrasive material i.e. newspaper Lizards- Shredded Paper Describe Above

Is bedding clean & absorbent _____

Yes No Needs Changing Other

Cleaning routine _____

per day per week

Heating _____

Heat Lamp / Light Bulb / Heat Tape Hot water Bottle / Heating Pad / Element / None

Safety of heat source _____

No bare lamps

Water _____

Non-Tip Bowl Deep Wide Bowl Too Small None Available

Hygiene of water provision _____

Clean Dirty Filthy Green Algae Soiled

Diet for reptiles _____

Live Prey (Unacceptable) Dead Animals Describe Above

Source of prey _____

Bought dead (from where) Killed on site (describe method) Other

Frequency of feed _____ Do they remove old food? Yes _____ No _____

Condition of animals _____

Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe Bad Shedding

Describe concerns _____

Injuries/ Laboured Breathing/Holding mouth open/Nasal discharge

How are reptiles transported from the shop _____

SPIDERS & SCORPIONS, INSECTS

Numbers & Breeds: _____

Group structures _____
Singly In small groups Large Groups Same species Mixed SpeciesCompatibility of Groups _____
Good (No aggression/anxiety) Aggression/Fighting Describe AboveSpace _____
Good (Stretch/move normally) Acceptable (stretch out/turn normally) Too small (cramped together/no normal movement)Cage/Tank Maintenance _____
Good Fair (repairs needed) Poor (harmful features)Hygiene of cages _____
Good Fair Bad Old/Soiled Food MouldAre Tarantulas protected from bright lights/full sun which may dry them out _____
No Yes Describe AboveTemperature suitable _____
Note: Tarantulas require more humidity than desert animalsHow do staff handle animals _____
Good Fair Poor UnacceptableDo they allow public to handle the animals _____
Yes No Not Seen

Handled by: Adults _____ Children (Age) _____ Only under supervision _____

Security/safety _____
Door Latch/ Door LockAre tank covers secure to prevent escape _____
Yes NoEnrichment/Hiding Area _____
Logs / Wood / Box / Pipes / Tunnels Describe Other

Substrate _____

Is substrate Clean & Absorbent _____
Yes No Needs Changing Other

Cleaning routine _____ per day _____ per week

Heating _____
Heat Lamp / Light Bulb / Heat Tile / Hot water Bottle / Heating Pad / Element / NoneSafety of Heat Source _____
No bare lamps One side of tank Over entire tankWater _____
Non-tip Bowl Deep Wide Bowl Shallow Bowl Gel Balls None AvailableHygiene of water provision: _____
Clean Dirty Filthy Green Algae SoiledDiet for Animals _____
Live Prey Dead insects Food flakes Describe Above

Source of Food _____

Frequency of feed _____ Do they remove old food: Yes _____ No _____

Condition of animals _____
Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe AboveDescribe concerns _____
Injuries/ Limbs missing/upside down Describe Other

How are animals transported from the shop: _____

Was a warning given? (Copy to be attached)

Yes_____ No X

Will do another inspection.

They only have a few fish in the shop.

Advised to put more enrichment into the tanks

Inspector: Mariaan Wentzel Date: _____ Time: _____

Follow up due Routine in December 2024

[illegible]