

Exotic Animal World – Vet meeting, Tu 13 Jun 2023 at Eisenburg (14h00-16h00)

Attendees: Drs Egbert Compion, Coetzee de Beer (both private vets) and Annelie Cloete and Ansulize Pepler (both State vets and PAPA LOs)

Nr	Location	Species	Problem	Reply	comment	Recommendation
1	Veterinary concerns					
1 a i	Main Aviary (Mufasa bay)	Lori	Feather Quality (nectar access vs unhealthy)	Bonded with Bibi - excessive preening. Dr EC 17/5/23,	Provide nectar feeding and limit access to grains. It was provided.	Separate pair and ensure adequate feeding to ensure good feather quality.
ii		Cockatoo	Keratin groove ...	Examine – no signs - 30/5	Too little pelleted feed – most problems will be resolved if 70% balanced pellet feed is provided.	General for all birds: Diet pellet should be 70% of total daily intake. Other 30% according to species requirements
iii		AG	Chron nasal discharge	Examine – no signs - 30/5	Was addressed	No further action
iv		Eclectus (Bibi)	Poor beak	CEAH for beak trimming		Feedback from CEAH
v		Lemur (Mufasa)	Ulceration testes, dirty blanket, holes in hide	Diabetes, fight last year, scrotum –no ulceration, pruritis or inflammation. Longstanding min hair coverage. Urine (PDPU)? Skin biopsy. (9/6/23)	Waiting for histopathology report. Quality of life still adequate. Will monitor.	
	3 a ii			Hide with heating pad/blanket		
	3 a i		Cleanliness –old ropes	Removed. Replaced with latte	Noted	
	6 a i		Ambient heating insufficient	IR lamps installed	IR lamps are same as used in chicken houses.	General recommendation: Thermostats to be installed for both IR and heat pads
	6 a ii	Carpet python	Vivarium no temp control - requirement			Thermostats to be installed

		8 a i	Poor air quality / ventilation – musty, dusty, humid		For periods when sides cannot be opened.	Circulation system (Whirly top vents in roof)
		9 a i B&Y Macaw (Nandifa)	Small holding cage, rust, no food, no enrichment, no protection	Recent surrender. Difficult history (20 yrs) Quarantine, intro cage (gradual outside time with handler / intro perch), met Vido (calm) but not eating with them yet. Toys/branches. Size: temp only.	Quality of cage – rust / flake Noted rehabilitation process. Building separate aviaries for similar groups have been in process already.	Maintenance Amazons and Macaws can be grouped. AG + Cockatoos can be group.
1 b i	Mid indoor garden	Marmoset (Arnie)	Under-arm hair loss (refer to KdP)	Obese - Making good progress (months). Not hair loss. F10 swapped	Sweets and chips - overfat	Current diet is working. Continue with correct diet
ii		Iguana	Nasal process wound MDB concern	No evidence of MBD or # Old scarring to mouth	Males aggression problem, seasonal.	Rather keep away from people
		4 a i Hawk-headed parrot (Alfie)	Diet prot inadequate	Surrendered – aggression Poor diet prior (seed junkie) – slow process, but hopeful ...	In progress	Continue with diet improvement (70% pellets)
		4 a ii AG vs Lori	Diet req differs –not same		Provide nectar feeding and limit access to grains.	
		4 a iii Birds	No fresh food – hungry, chew toys / rusty cage = tox concern	Feeding routine 8h00-11h00	Food preparation early Food by 10h00 in cages	Routine
		5 a i Slider	Pond stagnant, weekly water testing, oxygen, filters		No filtration. Scrubbed twice a week	Continue
		5 a ii Piranha aqua	Water stagnant, weekly water testing		Died	Noted

	9 b i	Carpet python	Vivarium too small, height deficiency, heat lamp/ expose heating pad – risk of burns	Temporary after fire Species difference. Used branch. Aesthetic? Fully utilising basking lamp. Thermostat advice	Gradient heat needed and provided.	No change necessary for this individual.
	10 a i	Cockatiel aviary	Presence of wild rodents – excretions pose health risk		Monthly control in place.	More frequent monitoring needed, particularly for outside areas
	11 1 i	Free roaming Iguana	Exposed to possible rough handling. Cage for protection	Agree Visitors warned Monitored	Males aggression problem, seasonal.	Rather keep away from people.
1 c i	Reptile garden	Skink	Tail ossified, spinal indent, MBD concern Urine smell No UVB provided (shades down)	Arrived 2007. Know since 2011. No change 12 years (8/6/23) and X-ray report (9/6/23)	Investigated. Old injury	No further action
	3 c i 6 b ii					
ii		Carpet python	Resp concern	Examined, Resp=No abn	Noted	No further action
iii		Iguana	Scale condition	Old scarring.	Noted	No further action
iv		Retic python	Incomplete shed (dysecdysis) & resp concern	Feeding reliably. Shedding pattern normal Resp=No abn	Noted feedback from James: "batling for years with resp disease." Noted: heat cables present under substrate. Risk of rubbing injuries, temp control	Was probably referring to a previous snake. Have to prevent rubbing risk Temp monitoring and additional heating provided
	6 b i		Insufficient heating	Heat pads, IR and ceramic heaters provided	Noted	Thermostats to be installed
	6 b iii	Boa	No temp control, no water		Light and ceramic added. But noted cables under boxes	Thermostats to be installed
	8 b i		Poor air quality / ventilation – musty, dusty, humid			Circulation system (Whirly top vents in roof)

1.d i	End Aviary 4 b i (Parrot bay) 8 c i	AG (Rupert)	Vit A def (nostrils) Diet deficient 70/30 Dominance order Poor ventilation – left side	Donated with chron diet def, incl Vita Sx not all erased after correction of diet	Diet	70% pellets
ii		Hybrid Macaw (Jerabardo) Harlequin Macaw	Obese	No obes. Chronic plucking Bought in disabled (beak and humped back) Correct weight	Flat muscle around sternum = obesity Diet	70% pellets
iii		Guinea pigs	Diff ages, ovarian disease	Sexes apart. No spay intended. Will Euth OD All males in this bay.	Noted	No further action
iv		Guinea pigs	Coat Q, mite infestation, parasite C	Separated and Rx Ivomec (2/6/20 report)	Noted	No further action
v		Guinea pigs	Eating parrot scraps (dental concern / obesity) No oat hay Live mice – health risk	None. Fed correctly Morning feed: pellets + fresh + ad lib oat hay 2 nd feed: Hay top-up Weekly portion Lucerne Some removed to warm room.	Noted straw instead of hay Must have been morning fed delay. Is correctly provided Additional Supplement Vit C is provided	Camping-off below bird feeders
1 e i	Outside area I	Amazon	Non-reactive	Owa & Zaxu = bonded pair. Owa reserved, but react to known keepers	Noted: Response to keepers	No further action
ii		Quaker parakeet (Pip)	Dropped L-wing	CEAH in March Old injury. No flight impairment	Noted	No further action
1 f i	Outside area II 4 c i	Ferret	Chron itch, parasite C, vac, sterilisation Needs ad lib prot (no food /water provided)	Ferrets neutered No evidence on exam Rx Revolution if req. Vacc discussed (2/6 rep)	Noted Noted	No further action No further action

				Morning feed: cat pellets /wet food (not finished) Eve: fresh raw chicken		
1 g i	Tortoise enclosures	Small T	Ticks, ext parasite C, abnormal breathing	No ticks seen. Rx Fipronil Adult LT - Reg checks: Will euth affected individuals	Noted	No further action
ii		both	Dry area, shelter	Straw provided. Advise more for leopard tortoise	Noted	No further action
	3 e	Large T	Shelter wet, mouldy, rotting substrate	Heavy rains shortly before. Changed regularly	Noted	No further action
1 h i	Owl aviary	Spotted Eagle Owl	R-eye damage (Four)	Previous injured. All are human imprinted. All feeding well, good health. Needs seen to – aides, perches All perched in trees/bushes. Mocca – imprinted and not releasable	Common species Pair-bonded with handler One in distress – confirm and rather Euthanase if coping well - keep	These birds, if coping well, can be used for awareness and educational purposes, provided their stories are told and the opportunity maximised to prevent imprinting of wild birds.
ii			2x dropped R wings		No flight impairment	No further action
iii			Flapping, unable to fly		Provision with stepped perches. Found in tree.	If coping well- keep
1 i i	Renovated room Animal care centre	Hedgehog	Bi-lat nasal discharge, lethargy. Contact animals concern	Exam all hedgehogs: No abn, free from parasites	One surrendered to SPCA Black market trade with illegal captive-breeding poses a huge problem with hundreds surrendered annually, also by CapeNature. EAW is bearing the cost – unreasonable???	Their story should be told to discourage the demand. Concerted and cooperative media campaign should be considered. All role-players

	3 f	Puff adder	Wet newspaper	Recent surrender. Temp housed before release. Not normally kept.	Noted: Ad hoc arrangement - was released the next day.	No further action
	6 d i	Geckos	No heating provided	Refurbishment ongoing	Heating not critical, but additional provided	No further action
	ii	Stick insects	Exposed heating pads	Removed to gecko (temperate species so not essential)	Noted	No further action
	9 c i	Ball python	Exposed heating pad, dead flies, sand	Fed outside enclosure Sand in order provided humidity and clean	Prevent too dry environment.	Add: Humid hide
1 j i	Restaurant aviary	Rosella	Dropped wing	Odd feet, dropped wing, flying free	Noted: No flight impairment	No further action
ii		Pigeons, doves	Health risk - separate	Wild: release in spring Pigeons moved.	Agreed: Risk to collection chlamydia, paramyxo, etc. Addressed elsewhere	Amend policy to address this risk
2	Unsuitable cage mates					
2 a 1	Main aviary (Mufasa bay)	Lemur	Vs Macaws		Noted: Moved	No further action
ii		Multiple birds	Feather loss – co-habiting species	Baby blue and Pablo friends? BBlue moved to parrot bay	Noted: Moved	No further action
2 b i	Mild indoor av	Lemurs	Birds (rosella, etc)	Not here? (budgie aviary)	Rock pebbler – lemur family – no problems	No further action
2 c i	Reptile garden	Chinchilla vs marmoset	Nocturnal rodent vs diurnal primate. Cater separately for Chinc	Add more hides	Separate due to exposure to fruit to Chinchilla and health risk.	Separate from marmosets
2.d i	End aviary (Parrot bay)	Cockatoo vs Macaws	Lung disease risk to macaws	Space >> AG to move out to new larger outside avi	Noted: Moved	No further action
ii		Guinea pigs vs birds	Behaviour, aggression, health risk		No aggression problem. Food access addressed above	No further action

2 e i	Outside I	Guinea pigs vs birds	Behaviour, aggression, health risk		Same as above	No further action
2 f i	Small tortoise	small	Overcrowded, remove/enlarge		Noted: all in order	Bergskilpad checked regularly
2 g i	Owl aviary	Spot Eagle owl	With rabbit (11/5) – what happened?		Rabbit removed Suni and rabbit mates	No further action
2 h i	Restaur Avi	Birds species	Not similar habitat req		Separate aviaries	In progress
ii		Chinchilla	Habitat requirements not met		Noted	Separate from marmosets
3	Cleanliness					
3.d i	Walk-through indoor garden	Mud-skipper vivarium	Fungal growth. Also on UVB light	Temp setup after fire in care centre. Moved back.	Dismantled. None left 30/5	No further action
	8 d i		Poor air quality / ventilation – musty, dusty, humid. Strong smell of urine		For periods when sides cannot be opened.	Circulation system (Whirly top vents in roof)
4	Inadequate diet		Amend, provide			Diet pellet should be 70% of total daily intake. Other 30% according to species requirements
4 a iii						
5	Water		Test regularly, pumps, provide at all times		Done	Should respond to any parameters outside normal
5 b i	Aquarium	All display tanks	Weekly water testing	2-weekly – JBL kit Levels accept to date	Noted	No further action.
5 c i	Outside	Slider pond	Pond stagnant, weekly water testing, oxygen, filters	Drained, scrubbed and filled twice weekly	Noted	No further action.
6	Heating / insulation		Heating lamps – Q?, replace old UVB lights Cover heating pads	Is provided (ordered from Lamp factory) Back-up generators from 1 Jun solar panels Advised thermostats	Noted	Thermostats to be installed

				Corn snakes – 3 month cooling period with water, hide, no light, feed, heat. Old Kitchen not on display. Discuss report 8/6/23		
6 c i	Old kitchen	Corn snake	No heating and poor ventilation	Temp area. Moved to renovated animal care centre Heating pad under the cage	Noted that no additional heating is required during winter.	Thermostats to be installed
ii		Carpet python 12 b i	No heating provided No climbing enrichment	Heating pad under the cage Temp: will be moving to renovated care centre	Noted	Thermostats to be installed
7	Hazardous material		Physical, electric, toxic exposure	Chicken wire removed/replaced	Noted: In process	
7 a 1	Aviaries		Rust – heavy metal toxin Injury, ensnarement		Noted: replacement in process	To be completed
7 b i	Aquaria		Elect wires, fittings – electrocution risk	Installed by electrician. Cladding added	Noted	To be completed
ii			No lids/covers on tanks -exposed		Noted	To be completed
8	Shelter / hides		Should be available and dry, protective. Air Q and ventilation	Good with excellent ventilation – weather permitting Not noted rainy day.	Noted	To be completed
9	Multiple issues					
10	Pest control		Mice, rat, fly, mites infestations noted	Hygetech for rats, flies, cockroaches. Added fly traps.	Monthly service is fine	Pest control officer to monitor the traps daily/weekly
10 c i	Outside enclosures		Mice in and around enclosures		Noted. Also indigenous wild species	Nothing can be done

10 d 1	Fly, flea, tick, mite, midge C		Observed in environment, on animals, affecting animals. Int and Ext pest control needed.		Noted treatment policy	To be continued
11	Access to animals		Public interaction lack of signage to discourage	Potentially dangerous animals removed. Iguana: Seasonal aggr monitored. Visitor education - challenge	Noted seasonal male aggression	Constant direct supervision. Rather keep away from people
12	Environmental enrichment		Should be available and maintained		Agreed	
12 a 1	Meerkat enclosure	solitary	Pacing, stressed. To be sorted out.	Companion under treatment in holding carrier.	Noted	Re-unite
13	Emergency plan, contact and records		Personnel could not provide help/evidence	Is available	Agreed	
13 a 1	Contact details		Not available on request		Agreed: Personnel have it	Emergency contact details should be displayed
13 b i	Records		Not available on request		Agreed	To be addressed
	Purpose: education (tourism)		Lemurs – conservation? (8/6/23 report p3		Noted Lemurs on loan – part of conservation breeding project	If healthy, functional and content even previously injured animals can be effective ambassadors, provided their stories are told
14	PAPA SOP's & records		Several aspects outstanding	Included in corrective action report	Noted	To be addressed

Signed: 21 Jun 2023

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