

PET SHOP CHECK LIST

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.

Hygiene of cages: Overall good – cages being cleaned during inspection Hamsters
Good Fair Bad Excess Faeces **Old/Soiled Food**

GENERAL

Reason for hand rearing: _____

RODENTS

Numbers: Rats 0 Mice 0 Guinea Pigs 0 Hamsters 11

Group structures Mother and young together. Same size together
Singly Mother & Young Separate Same sizes together All together

Compatibility of Groups Good

Space Good
Good (Play & Positive Interaction) Fighting Bullying Describe Above

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

Are cages raised off the ground to prevent handling/accidental kicking/reduce stress: Yes
Good Fair (some repairs needed) Poor (harmful features)

Hygiene of cages Good
Yes No

Ventilation Good
Good Fair Bad Excess Faeces Old/Soiled Food

Draughts NO
Good (No Ammonia Smell) Fair Poor (Ammonia Smell)

Temperature Comfortable
No Yes Describe

Do they allow breeding No, same sex pets grouped together
Too Hot (Panting etc) Too Cold (Curled up/shivering) Comfortable (20°C- 24°C)

How do staff handle animals Very well
Yes No Describe Above

Do they allow public to handle the animals Not seen
Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Hiding areas Good husbandry
Yes No Not Seen

Bedding Sawdust Good Box/Plastic Container Fair (not enough) Unacceptable (None) Other

Is bedding clean & absorbent Yes Sawdust Straw Newspaper Other

Cleaning routine Twice Yes / No Needs Changing Type: Sawdust/Newspaper/Other
per day per week

Water Non tip bowl

Hygiene of water provision Clean
Non- tip Bowl Bowl too small Bowl too deep to reach water None available

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

Frequency of feed Twice a day Do they remove old food? Yes ☒ No ☐

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

Are the animals fully weaned Yes, accept the newly borns
Yes (feeding themselves well) Just Weaned Under Age

Condition of animals Good
Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe Above

Describe Concerns none

How are rodents transported from the shop In hamster cages
Injuries/ Poor Coat / Listless / Runny Eyes/ Runny Nose / Diarrhoea

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

Are unweaned rodents sold live? no

How are rodents killed (as reptile food)? not killed
No (Good) Yes (Unacceptable)

CO2 (Acceptable) Hitting on Head/live freezing Describe

PUPPIES, KITTENS & RABBITS

Puppy Numbers & Breeds: N/A

Kitten Numbers: N/A Rabbit Numbers: 4

Group structures All together

Compatibility of Groups Positive interaction Singly Only with litter mates Some litters mixed All together

Space Cage is too small for 4 rabbits Good (Play & Positive Interaction) Mixed Sizes Bullying Describe Above

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

Hygiene of cages Good Good Fair (some repairs needed) Poor (harmful features)

Ventilation Good Good Fair Unacceptable Excess Faeces Old/Soiled Food

Draughts NO Good (Fresh & Clean) No (Stuffy & Smelly) Describe Above

Temperature Comfortable No Yes Describe Above

Shelter provided in outside pens None Too Hot (Panting etc) Too Cold (Curled up/shivering) Comfortable

Do they allow breeding Yes, as the rabbits were not separated in same sex groups Good Needs Improvement Poor None

How do staff handle animals Good Yes No Describe Above

Do they allow public to handle animals: Adults NO Children (Age) NO Under supervision NO Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Floor construction: Plastic floor cage Wood Concrete Chicken Mesh Weld Mesh Soil Other

Bedding: Straw Blankets Bed Carpet Soil Sawdust Straw Newspaper Other

Is Bedding Clean & Absorbent: Yes Yes No Needs Changing Other

Cleaning routine Twice per day 7 days per week Yes No Needs Changing Other

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

Hygiene of water provision Clean

Diet for Puppies N/A Clean Dirty Very Dirty Green Algae Soiled

Diet for Rabbits Pellet, Fresh vegetable Quality Pellets Roughage Fresh Vegetables/Fruit Other

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

Frequency of feed Twice Do they remove old food? Yes ☒ No ☐

Are the animals fully weaned? Yes

Condition of animals Good Yes (feeding themselves well) Just Weaned Not Weaned

Describe Concerns Cage is too small and there potential breeding Good Fair Poor Very Poor Injuries/Poor Coat/Listless/Runny Eyes/Runny Nose/Diarrhoea

FISH

Hygiene of tanks Good

Is water clean Clear Good Fair Poor Excess Algae Waste Material (Faeces/Debris)

Is equipment (nets/heaters) in good repair Good Clear (see fish clearly) Quite Clear Smelly Foamy (on surface) Cloudy

Do the tanks have efficient aeration Fair Good Fair Poor Other

Do the tanks have filtration Yes Good (Bubbles) Fair (some bubbles) Unacceptable (No bubbles)

Is water in tanks tested appropriately for temperature/pH/ammonia/nitrites/oxygen Yes ☒ No ☐ Good Fair None

Are the tanks enriched Plants

Are the tanks overstocked NO Plants Hiding Areas Rocks Gravel Other

Are lights turned off at night for fish to rest Yes Good Fair Poor

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 Good Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe Above

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

Temperature Suitable Yes for Gold fish 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

In the event of a power failure is the pet shop owner / attendant informed: Yes, generator kicks in Yes No Appears Acceptable

How do staff handle animals Well Yes No

Any dead fish observed: Describe Reason NO Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Compatibility of Groups Good Good Poor (Chasing/Bullying/Hiding/Damaged fins)

How are fish destroyed when necessary the owner is notified and she fetches the dead fish

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 oxygenated plastic bags Describe 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 Finches 4, 2 Yellow cheek Amazon Parrots
6 Buggies

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

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

Space Good, accept 1 parrot's cage is too small
 Good (Play & move normally) Acceptable (stretch out, stand normally & turn) Cramped/Too small

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

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

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

Are birds exposed to draughts No
 No Yes Describe Above

Are birds left in full sun NO
 No Yes Describe Above

Temperature Comfortable
 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 Good
 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 unknown

How do staff handle animals Very Well

Cleaning routine Twice
 Very Well Good Fair Poor Unacceptable
 per day 7 days per week

Water Non tip bowl
 Non-Tip Bowl Hanging Bowl Bowl too deep Bowl too small None Available

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

Diet for Birds Seeds

Frequency of feed: Daily 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
 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 Good
 Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe Above

Describe Concerns NONE
 Injuries/ Poor Feather Condition/Feather Loss/Listless /Runny or Swollen Eyes/Nose

How are birds transported from the shop In cages

REPTILES

Reptile Numbers & Breeds _____

Group structures _____

Compatibility of Groups _____

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 _____

Hygiene of cages _____

Are reptiles left in full sun _____

Temperature Suitable _____

How do staff handle animals _____

Do they allow public to handle the animals _____

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

Venomous snakes: Are staff trained to handle _____

Security/safety _____

Are tank covers secure to prevent escape _____

Enrichment/Hiding Area _____

Bedding _____

Is bedding clean & absorbent _____

Cleaning routine _____

Heating _____

Safety of heat source _____

Water _____

Hygiene of water provision _____

Diet for reptiles _____

Source of prey _____

Frequency of feed _____

Condition of animals _____

Describe concerns _____

How are reptiles transported from the shop _____

Singly In small groups Large Groups Same species Mixed Species

Good (No aggression/anxiety) Aggression Describe Above

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

Good Fair Bad Excess Scat Excess Shedded Skin

No Yes Describe Above

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

Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Yes No Not Seen

Yes No

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

Yes No

Logs / Wood / Box / Pipes / Tunnels /Describe Other

Snakes- nonabrasive material i.e. newspaper Lizards- gravel Describe Above

Yes No Needs Changing Other

per day per week

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

No bare lamps

Non-Tip Bowl Deep Wide Bowl Too Small None Available

Clean Dirty Filthy Green Algae Soiled

Live Prey (Unacceptable) Dead Animals Describe Above

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

Do they remove old food? Yes No

Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe Bad Shedding

Injuries/ Laboured Breathing/Holding mouth open/Nasal discharge

SPIDERS & SCORPIONS, INSECTS

Numbers & Breeds: _____

Group structures _____

Compatibility of Groups _____

Space _____

Cage/Tank Maintenance _____

Hygiene of cages _____

Are Tarantulas protected from bright lights/full sun which will dry them out _____

Temperature Suitable _____

How do staff handle animal _____

Do they allow public to handle the animals _____

Handled by: Adults _____ Children (Age) _____

Security/safety _____

Are tank covers secure to prevent escape _____

Enrichment/Hiding Area _____

Substrate _____

Is substrate Clean & Absorbent _____

Cleaning routine _____

Heating _____

Safety of Heat Source _____

Water _____

Hygiene of water provision: _____

Diet for Animals _____

Source of Food _____

Frequency of feed _____

Condition of animals _____

Describe concerns _____

How are animals transported from the shop: _____

Singly In small groups Large Groups Same species Mixed Species

Good (No aggression/anxiety) Aggression/Fighting Describe Above

Good (Stretch/move normally) Acceptable (stretch out/turn normally) Too small (cramped together/no normal movement)

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

Good Fair Bad Old/Spilled Food Mould

No Yes Describe Above

Note: Tropical species need more humidity than desert animals

Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

Yes No Not Seen

Only under supervision

Door Latch/ Door Lock

Yes No

Logs / Wood / Box / Pipes / Tunnels Describe Other

Yes No Needs Changing Other per day per week

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

No bare lamps One side of tank Over entire tank

Non-tip Bowl Deep Wide Bowl Shallow Bowl Gel Balls None Available

Clean Dirty Filthy Green Algae Soiled

Live Prey Dead Insects Food flakes Describe Above

Do they remove old food: Yes No

Good Fair Poor Very Poor Describe Above

Injuries/ Limbs missing/upside down Describe Other

ON COMPLETION OF INSPECTION COMPLETE THIS SECTION:

Was a warning given? (Copy to be attached)

Yes ☒ No ☐Comments:

The shop is generally clean and well maintained, the animals are all in good body condition, good husbandary conditions provided.

Concerns:-

4 rabbits in one medium sized cage
1 yellow cheeked amazon Parrot kept in a small cage

Inspector: Ayanda Date: 8/2/2024 Time: Follow up due 9/2/2024Comments: