

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: Retreat Pet Shop
 Address: 236, 3rd Avenue, Retreat, Cape Town
 Name of Owner: Mohamed S Cell: 073 2696444
 Tel: _____ Fax/Email: _____
 Veterinarian: _____ Tel: _____

GENERAL

What happens to sick animals: Owner fetches them
 Self medicate New owners must treat Taken to vet
 What happens to animals after hours: kept in the 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: N/A
 Yes No None Seen Separate Room
 Rodent control: none
 Open Poison/Poison Stations/Poison Pipes/Live Traps/Rat Traps
 Suppliers of animals: Pet & Pals

Do they breed: Uncertain
 Yes / No / Uncertain Single Sex Groups
 If breeding, what happens to offspring: Haven't had offspring
 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 10

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

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

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

Cage Maintenance Poor, dirty & smelly
 Good Fair (some repairs needed) Poor (harmful features)

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

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

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

Draughts no
 No Yes Describe

Temperature comfortable
 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 Unacceptable
 Good (Box/Plastic Container) Fair (not enough) Unacceptable (None) Other

Bedding Sawdust
 Sawdust Straw Newspaper Other

Is bedding clean & absorbent no needs changing
 Yes / No Needs Changing Type: Sawdust/Newspaper/Other

Cleaning routine Once per day 1 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 Good Pellets Roughage Fresh Vegetables/Fruit Vit C for Guinea Pigs (220mg/lit water daily)

Frequency of feed daily 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 none
 Injuries/ Poor Coat / Listless / Runny Eyes/ Runny Nose / Diarrhoea

How are rodents transported from the shop hamster cage

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

Are unweaned rodents sold live? N/A
 No (Good) Yes (Unacceptable)

How are rodents killed (as reptile food)? not killed
 CO2 (Acceptable) 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, stand normally & turn) Cramped/Too small

Cage Maintenance _____

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

Hygiene of cages _____

Good Fair Unacceptable Excess Faeces Old/Soiled Food

Ventilation _____

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

Draughts _____

No Yes Describe Above

Temperature _____

Too Hot (Panting 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 _____

Good

Fair

Poor

Excess Algae

Waste Material (Faeces/Debris)

Is water clean _____

Clear (see fish clearly)

Quite Clear

Smelly

Foamy (on surface)

Cloudy

Is equipment (nets/heaters) in good repair _____

Good

Fair

Poor

Other

Do the tanks have efficient aeration _____

Good (Bubbles)

Fair (some bubbles)

Unacceptable (No bubbles)

Do the tanks have filtration _____

Good

Fair

None

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

Are the tanks enriched _____

Plants

Hiding Areas

Rocks

Gravel

Other

Are the tanks overstocked _____

NO

Good

Fair

Poor

Are lights turned off at night for fish to rest _____

Yes

No

Do tanks have covers _____

Yes

No

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

Yes

No

Condition of animals _____

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

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

No

Appears Acceptable

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

yes

Yes

No

How do staff handle animals _____

Fair

Good

Fair

Poor

Unacceptable

Any dead fish observed: Describe Reason _____

NO

Compatibility of Groups _____

Good

Good

Poor (Chasing/Bullying/Hiding/Damaged fins)

How are fish destroyed when necessary _____

Owner

Fetches them

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

Describe

How do the buyers transport the fish from the shop _____

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

No

BIRDS

Bird Numbers & Breeds 12 Rock doves, 5 Zebra doves, 12 Budgies, 1 red rumped 2 Bourke's Parrot, 4 Eurasian Collared Dove, 12 love birds.

Group structures In Small groups

Compatibility of Groups Good
Singly In small groups Large Groups Same species Mixed Species

Space Good at the front, Cramped at the back
Good (No aggression/anxiety) Chasing/Bullying etc Describe Above

Cage Maintenance Good at the front, poor at the back
Good (Play & move normally) Acceptable (stretch out, stand normally & turn) Cramped/Too small

Hygiene of cages Good at the front, Poor at the back
Good Fair (some repairs needed) Poor (harmful features)

Ventilation Good at the front, Stuffy and smelly at the back
Good Fair Poor Excess Faeces Old/Spoiled Food
 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

Adequate perch space Good at the back, Poor at the back
Good (all can rest on perches at same time) Fair Needs Improvement Poor None
 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 Pet & Pals

How do staff handle animals Good

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

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 Adelquest 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 at the front.
Injuries/ Poor Feather Condition/Feather Loss/Listless /Runny or Swollen Eyes/Nose

How are birds transported from the shop Not seen

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 _____

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

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 _____

SPIDERS & SCORPIONS, INSECTS

Numbers & Breeds: _____

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

Compatibility of Groups _____
Good (No aggression/anxiety) Aggression/Fighting Describe Above

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

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

Hygiene of cages _____
Good Fair Bad Old/Soiled Food Mould

Are Tarantulas protected from bright lights/full sun which will dry them out _____
No Yes Describe Above

Temperature Suitable _____
Note: Tropical species need more humidity than desert animals

How do staff handle animal _____
Good Fair Poor Unacceptable

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

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

Security/safety _____
Door Latch/ Door Lock

Are tank covers secure to prevent escape _____
Yes No

Enrichment/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 / None

Safety of Heat Source _____
No bare lamps One side of tank Over entire tank

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

Hygiene of water provision: _____
Clean Dirty Filthy Green Algae Soiled

Diet 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 Above

Describe concerns _____
Injuries/ Limbs missing/upside down Describe Other

How are animals transported from the shop: _____

ON COMPLETION OF INSPECTION COMPLETE THIS SECTION:

Was a warning given? (Copy to be attached)

Yes ☒ No ☐Comments:

Cages of hamsters and birds
in the store room a dirty and
cramped.

Warning: 19373

Inspector: Ayanda Ngqo-Gordse Date: 15/4/2024 Time: 12:53

Follow up due 17/4/2024

Comments: