



Inspection Report

Patricia Wess
16246 Laurel Hill Road S E
Glenford, OH 43739

Customer ID: **322476**
Certificate: **31-B-0163**
Site: 001
PAT WESS

Type: RE-LICENSE INSPECTION
Date: 12-JUN-2023

2.40(b)(2) Direct

Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care (dealers and exhibitors).

The licensee failed to alert the Attending Veterinarian (AV) to the worsening condition of a fox. There is an approximately 10-year-old silver mutation Red Fox (Ruger) with a growth at the front of the base of his right ear. The growth is approximately walnut-sized, and is raised, pink, and hairless. The fur around the growth appears damp and slightly matted/tangled. The fox's head is tilted to the right. This head position does not change whether the fox is standing, walking, or laying down. The licensee states the AV has examined this animal for this issue in the past and it is a long-standing issue. She also reports that this fox is not very handleable for treatments.

APHIS officials spoke with the AV on the day of the inspection. The AV reports Ruger has a history a polyp (benign mass) inside the right ear canal. Some topical medication had then been prescribed to help control location inflammation caused by the mass. The AV had not noted a head tilt at that time. The AV was neither aware the mass has grown, nor that the fox currently has a head tilt. He reports that with the condition worsening an examination would be in order so he can determine the best course of action moving forward.

The licensee must ensure the use of appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries for animals of the facility. The licensee must have this fox evaluated by the AV for appropriate diagnostic and prognostic recommendations. Correct by Wednesday, June 14, 2023, or prior to your next scheduled relicensure inspection, whichever comes first.

2.75(b)(1)

Records: Dealers and exhibitors.

The licensee does not maintain a Record of Animals on Hand. The records do not currently specify the method of acquisition (born at the property vs. purchased or otherwise obtained). Accurate animal inventory is important for evaluating animal populations regarding facility capacity and also in cases of loss, theft, or escape. Every dealer shall make, maintain, and keep records which fully disclose information concerning animals that were purchased, or otherwise acquired, owned, held, leased, or otherwise in possession by the licensee, including any offspring born on the property.

The licensee has not acquired and documented all the necessary information needed for records of disposition. The licensee does not have the vehicle license number and driver's license number for buyers who are not USDA licensed.

Prepared By: LAUREN MURPHY
USDA, APHIS, Animal Care
Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER

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This information is important so that USDA officials can properly identify animal traceback. Each dealer shall properly make, keep, and maintain records which fully and correctly disclose information concerning animals purchased or otherwise acquired, as well as animals sold or otherwise disposed of. The licensee must ensure records of disposition are complete.

2.134(a)

Contingency planning.

The licensee has not developed a contingency plan for the facility. A contingency plan is a useful guide for safeguarding the animals during emergencies or disasters and ensuring adequate animal welfare. Dealers must develop, document, and follow an appropriate plan to provide for the humane handling, treatment, transportation, housing, and care of their animals in the event of an emergency or disaster.

3.125(a)

Direct

Facilities, general.

There is an approximately 10-inch by 4-inch hole on the side wall of an adult opossum enclosure. The hole is large enough for the inspector to fit a fist through the hole. The hole poses a significant risk for animal entrapment or animal escape. Outdoor housing facilities must be structurally sound and kept in good repair to prevent injury and to contain the animals.

Multiple enclosures at the facility need repair:

An enclosure housing two Red fox has an area in the corner of the enclosure where the animals have dug and exposed the wire flooring. The wire has rusted, broken, and bent upwards creating a risk of injury to the animals.

An enclosure housing two Red fox has an area on the right wall of the enclosure that has a section of wire fence that is bent and protruding into the enclosure with sharp points on the bottom edge. Protruding sharp points into the enclosure creates a risk of injury for the animals.

Three other Red fox enclosures housing a pair of Red fox in each have areas of wire mesh that contains sharp points that could cause injury to the animals.

A Raccoon enclosure housing one male Raccoon has wire mesh on the door that was not trimmed after it was cut to fit the door. The wire mesh has many sharp points that protrude into the enclosure causing a threat of injury for the animal.

Approximately 3-4 months ago one male Red fox had escaped an enclosure and was off of the property for 2-3 days. The animal had broken through a hole in the wire mesh covering the top of the enclosure. The animal was recovered by the licensee and returned unharmed. Failure to contain animals can result in animals escaping and exposure to injury or death.

Correct by ensuring that all housing facilities are structurally sound and maintained in good repair to protect the animal from injury and to contain the animals. Correct by Wednesday, June 14, 2023, or prior to your next scheduled relicensure inspection, whichever comes first.

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3.125(c)

Facilities, general.

There is evidence of vermin in a food storage container. In a large chest-style freezer (unplugged), there are multiple bags of opened and unopened dog food. This food is fed to several species at the facility. There were mouse droppings, dried urine stains, and chew marks on the bags. There was also a dead mouse in an open-topped plastic container in the chest. The licensee stated the previous day she removed the mouse from a poisoned bait trap next to the freezer. She was concerned other animals on the property would consume the dead mouse if she just put it in the trash. Dead animals and contamination from vermin in and around food fed to the regulated animals can pose as a health hazard. Supplies of food must be stored in a manner which adequately protects from deterioration, molding, or contamination from vermin.

3.130 Direct

Watering.

There were multiple water receptacles provided for 8 Red fox and 4 Raccoon that were contaminated with urine, mud, and substrate. The licensee stated that all water buckets were changed prior to the inspection in the morning and are changed as needed throughout the day. The facility must provide potable water as often as necessary for the health and comfort of the animals. Failure to provide clean water to all animals as often as required to avoid contamination of bodily fluids and other contaminants can lead to animal illness and disease spread. Correct by ensuring that water receptacles are kept clean and sanitary to provide water that is free from contamination. Correct by Wednesday, June 14, 2023, or prior to your next scheduled relicensure inspection, whichever comes first.

3.131(c)

Sanitation.

There is a dense overgrowth of plants, approximately 4 ft tall, in a fenced-off portion of an enclosure housing 2 cavy. The licensee stated the intention to allow the cavy to graze the plants of that section. Overgrown areas are of concern because they can foster habitation of vermin, which could contaminate the enclosures and/or food of the regulated animals and may also spread disease and/or parasites. Additionally, it would be very difficult to appropriately carry out daily observation of the cavy with the height and density of the plants. The licensee shall keep the premises of the facility clean and in good repair in order to protect the animals from injury and to facilitate good husbandry practices and observation.

This is a 1st Re-License Inspection for a Class "C" license. The inspection and exit briefing were conducted with the applicant.

All items must be in compliance within 2 more inspections or by August 11, 2023, or the applicant will forfeit the license fee and must wait 6 months to reapply. Please contact your inspector to schedule your next Re-License Inspection.

Regulated activity can continue under your existing USDA license until it expires.

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Additional Inspectors:

Mark Sanderbeck, ANIMAL CARE INSPECTOR

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Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
322476	31-B-0163	001	PAT WESS	12-JUN-2023

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000001	<i>Vulpes lagopus</i>	ARCTIC FOX
000034	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	RED FOX (INCLUDES SILVER FOX & CROSS FOX)
000004	<i>Dolichotis patagonum</i>	PATAGONIAN CAVY / MARA
000002	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>	EASTERN GREY SQUIRREL
000007	<i>Procyon lotor</i>	RACCOON
000087	<i>Mephitis mephitis</i>	STRIPED SKUNK
000007	<i>Didelphis virginiana</i>	VIRGINIA OPOSSUM
000142	Total	