United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Inspection Report

Tropaquatics Inc.
4990 Paris Street
Denver, CO 80239

Customer ID: **326879**
Certificate: **84-B-0118**
Site: 001
Tropaquatics, Inc.

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION
Date: 13-APR-2018

2.40(b)(3) DIRECT

ATTENDING VETERINARIAN AND ADEQUATE VETERINARY CARE (DEALERS AND EXHIBITORS).

***APHIS inspector discovered a Syrian hamster with a large mass on the left side of the head. The mass was hairless, with most of it covered by a scab. There were two areas that contained beads of pus. The left eye was not visible due to the size of the mass. To the right side of the large mass was a smaller bump of tissue. The hair surrounding the right eye was patch and missing in spots. The hamster's overall hair coat was unthrifty and patchy. The facility representative stated that they had not noticed this condition prior to the inspection.

A mass is an indication of disease and can often be painful for the animal. It can result from numerous causes including both infectious and non-infectious. Failure to contact the attending veterinarian regarding the diagnosis and treatment can result in delays of appropriate care and prolong suffering of the animal. The facility representative was informed verbally that this hamster must be examined by a veterinarian no later than 6:00pm on April 16, 2018.
To be corrected by: April 16, 2018

* **In an enclosure containing four Syrian hamsters, APHIS inspector discovered the remains of a hamster. In an enclosure containing 5 Syrian hamsters and another enclosure containing 6 Syrian hamsters, APHIS inspector discovered the remains of a hamster. The carcasses and skin were dried out, indicating that the remains had been in the enclosure for more than a day. The facility representative stated that the employee in charge of the hamsters is supposed to perform daily observations of the animals.

Failure to properly observe the animals and their enclosures can lead to the facility missing medical conditions and for animal carcasses to stay in the enclosure for extended periods of time. Failure to remove animal bodies in a timely manner can increase the risk of disease for other animals in the enclosure.
To be corrected from this date forward.

Failure to observe and properly communicate animal health issues to the attending veterinarian in a timely manner can result in prolonged pain and suffering for the animal and potentially worsen a current medical condition. Daily observation of all animals is critical to ensuring that conditions that can adversely affect health and well-being are recognized in a timely manner. Additionally, when observed, problems relating to animal health or behavior must be conveyed to the attending veterinarian so that appropriate methods can be employed to ensure adequate care. The

Prepared By: ENGEL D.V.M DOMINIQUE, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care **Date:** 13-APR-2018

Title: HPA GOV USER 6113

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facility must conduct daily observations of all animals to ensure that all health and behavioral concerns are found in a timely manner and appropriately communicated with the attending veterinarian.

The facility must ensure that all animals showing potential signs of veterinary medical problems are evaluated by a veterinarian in a timely manner in order to receive an accurate diagnosis and appropriate treatment plan. Additionally, the facility must ensure the availability of emergency, weekend, and holiday care for all of the animals at the facility.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with two facility representatives.

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Customer: 326879
Inspection Date: 13-APR-18

Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
326879	84-B-0118	001	Tropaquatics, Inc.	13-APR-18

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000025	*Cricetulus griseus*	CHINESE HAMSTER
000007	*Meriones unguiculatus*	MONGOLIAN GERBIL (COMMON PET / RESEARCH VARIETY)
000092	*Mesocricetus auratus*	SYRIAN / GOLDEN HAMSTER (COMMON PET/RESEARCH TYPE)
000036	*Phodopus roborovskii*	ROBOROVSKI'S DWARF HAMSTER
000030	*Phodopus sungorus*	DJUNGARIAN / RUSSIAN WINTER WHITE DWARF HAMSTER
000190	**Total**	