



Inspection Report

256 Exotics, LLC
2421 Winchester Rd NE
Huntsville, AL 35811

Customer ID: **6010970**
Certificate: **64-B-0103**
Site: 001
256 Exotics, LLC

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION
Date: 02-AUG-2022

2.40(b)(2)

Repeat

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

The written Program of Veterinary Care (PVC) states that both the domestic cats (Savannah cats) and the exotic cats (servals) should be treated with monthly topical flea prevention medication. The written documentation of treatments provided to the inspector shows that the treatments were administered last at the end of May. No treatments were listed for June or July. The inspector asked the employee if the cats had been treated since May and was told no. The inspector asked the employee if they had the preventatives listed on the PVC by name and the employee didn't recognize the name and she stated they did not have them on site. The Attending Veterinarian had stated at a previous inspection (April 2022) that she expected the medications to be given as directed on the PVC. Following the Attending Veterinarian's instructions is important in ensuring animal health and well-being. Failure to follow the instructions may result in the occurrence of parasite infestations/infections or other health problems. The facility needs to follow all instructions provided by the Attending Veterinarian in the written PVC.

2.131(b)(1)

Handling of animals.

During this inspection one hedgehog enclosure (plastic tub) was noted having fallen off its rack (a couple of feet off the floor). The tub was on its side and the hedgehog had left the enclosure walking away from it. Shavings and a food bowl

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fell out onto the floor. The hedgehog was quickly recaptured and placed back into the enclosure and appeared fine. The employee stated that the enclosure must not have been placed back on the rack fully after it was cleaned this morning and thus tipped over and off the rack when the hedgehog moved to the front of the enclosure. Handling of all animals must be done as carefully as possible in a manner that does not cause trauma, stress, physical harm or unnecessary discomfort. Corrected during the inspection.

3.6(b)(3)

Primary enclosures.

The three Savannah cats housed in the back bathroom has one small litter box. The employee stated she cleaned the litter box that morning but by lunch time it was already completely dirty with a large amount of stool and litter present. The cats had scratched some of the litter and feces out of the box. No clean litter remained for the cats to use for defecation and urination. The cats could be contaminated by excreta if they use the dirty litter box. All primary enclosures must contain a litter box/receptacle that has sufficient clean litter to contain excreta and body wastes. Correct by 8/3/22.

3.9(b)

Feeding

The food bowl for three Savannah cats housed in the back bathroom is located right next to the one litter box. At the time of the inspection this litter box was dirty with a large amount of excreta. The cats had scratched litter and excreta outside the box. Placing the food bowl right next to the litter box means that litter and excreta scratched out of the uncovered box by the cats may contaminate the food in the bowl. This may lead to spread of disease and may lead to the cats not choosing to eat the food. Food receptacles for cats must be located so as to minimize contamination by excreta and pests. Correct by 8/3/22.

3.26(b)

Facilities, indoor.

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A strong ammonia odor was noted by the inspector upon entry into the facility. The odor stayed strong throughout the inspection in all areas of the facility. The ammonia levels started to irritate the inspector's eyes by the end of the inspection. Ammonia is a gas that causes irritation to the eyes, mucus membranes and the lungs of both humans and animals. Insufficient cleaning of enclosures and poor ventilation combined can lead to buildup of the ammonia gas which can negatively affect the health and comfort of the guinea pigs. Indoor housing facilities shall be adequately ventilated to provide for the health and comfort of the animals at all times. Correct by 8/16/22.

3.28(a)(3)

Primary enclosures.

The enclosures housing the guinea pigs are in need of clean bedding. The bedding in the entirety of the enclosures was a mixture of bedding pellets and excreta. The guinea pigs are not able to walk around in the enclosure without stepping on excreta. The lack of clean bedding can lead to contamination of the animals, odors, and possible spread of disease.

Primary enclosures housing guinea pigs having a solid floor shall be provided with clean bedding material. Correct by 8/4/22.

3.30

Watering.

The open containers used as water bowls for the guinea pigs are contaminated with bedding and excreta. The containers themselves are clean and the facility representative stated clean water was placed in the clean bowls this morning.

However by lunchtime, the guinea pigs had already had excreta collected on their feet while walking in their enclosure fall into the water bowl (placed feet on rim to reach). The guinea pigs may choose not to drink the contaminated water or the water may be a source for spread of disease. Open containers used for dispensing water to guinea pigs shall be placed in or attached to the primary enclosure as to minimize contamination from excreta. Correct by 8/5/22.

3.53(a)(2)

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Primary enclosures.

Two rabbit enclosures of wire are raised above a wooden enclosure with a solid floor. Bedding is present in the wooden enclosure. Excreta from the rabbits in the two wire enclosures falls through the wire and onto the bedding. One rabbit is currently being housed on the floor in the wooden enclosure. This rabbit was sitting underneath the wire enclosure. Excreta falling from the rabbits above could land on top of the one rabbit housed below contaminating the rabbit's coat. Primary enclosures housing rabbits shall be constructed and maintained so as to enable the rabbits to remain dry and clean. Correct by 8/4/22.

3.81

Environment enhancement to promote psychological well-being.

The facility currently houses four marmosets. The marmosets are provided with social housing and environmental enrichment however there is no written plan for environment enhancement available for review. A blank form for the plan was found in the USDA records. The employee was unaware of the existence of a plan. Non-human primates are social animals that require social and environmental enrichment to promote their psychological well-being. This plan should be in accordance with currently accepted professional standards and as directed by the attending veterinarian. The facility shall develop, document and follow an appropriate plan for environment enhancement approved by their attending veterinarian and adequate to promote the psychological well-being of the non-human primates. Correct by 9/2/22.

3.131(a)

Sanitation.

Multiple animal enclosures are in need of cleaning.

*The litter box for the servals is in need of cleaning. The surface is covered with excreta.

*The floor of the serval enclosure has dried blood on it from a previous day's food.

*The resting surface shelves are dirty with brown dirt and grime.

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*The plastic and wood nest/resting boxes for the kinkajous are dirty. The clear plastic box is speckled with dark brown debris. The wooden boxes are streaked with a large amount of dark brown material.

*Three quarters of the hedgehog enclosures have dirty wet shavings and large amounts of stool in them. The hedgehogs cannot avoid the wet dirty shavings. The facility representative stated she started cleaning the enclosure but ran out of clean shavings. Another employee did bring some shavings later.

Enclosures need to be cleaned regularly. Excreta and debris need to be removed from enclosures as often as necessary to prevent contamination of the animals, to minimize odors (such as ammonia) and to minimize disease hazards. Correct by 8/4/22.

3.131(c)

Sanitation.

The back rooms (non-public areas) of the facility housing multiple species including the servals, kinkajous, and hedgehogs are in need of general housekeeping and cleaning. An open trash bag with some of the trash fallen onto the floor was sitting in front of the door to outside. Over an inch of sunlight was visible under this door. The doors sweep was missing with dirt and debris on the floor just inside and outside the door. Pests can enter through the opening into the facility. The entire floor was in need of sweeping and cleaning. Dirt, dirty bedding, clean bedding and food debris were all noted on the floor in between and behind animal enclosures and around stored materials. Numerous items were stored on the floor that were not necessary for daily husbandry. Regular cleaning/housekeeping is necessary to prevent odors, eliminate breeding and living areas for pests and to reduce the potential for spread of disease. The premises shall be kept clean in order to facilitate the required husbandry practices and to protect the health of the animals. Correct by 8/28/22.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with two employees.

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Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
6010970	64-B-0103	001	256 Exotics, LLC	02-AUG-2022

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000004	<i>Felis silvestris catus</i>	CAT ADULT
000011	<i>Cavia porcellus</i>	DOMESTIC GUINEA PIG
000025	<i>Atelerix albiventris</i>	FOUR-TOED HEDGEHOG
000002	<i>Leptailurus serval</i>	SERVAL
000013	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	DOMESTIC RABBIT / EUROPEAN RABBIT
000006	<i>Potos flavus</i>	KINKAJOU
000001	<i>Callithrix geoffroyi</i>	WHITE-FRONTED MARMOSET
000008	<i>Petaurus breviceps</i>	SUGAR GLIDER
000003	<i>Callithrix jacchus</i>	COMMON MARMOSET
000073	Total	