



Inspection Report

Santa Barbara Zoological Gardens
500 Ninos Drive
Santa Barbara, CA 93103

Customer ID: **3503**

Certificate: **93-C-0013**

Site: 001

SANTA BARBARA ZOOLOGICAL
FOUNDATION

Type: FOCUSED INSPECTION

Date: 23-MAR-2023

3.133 Critical

Separation.

The zoo acquired two 6-month-old capybaras in January 2023. According to the Attending Veterinarian (AV) these two capybaras went through a slow and careful introduction process with the facility's single female adult capybara. There was consultation with the AZA capybara SSP about the introduction process before accepting the young capybaras, and the introduction process had been going well. Experienced facility staff initially monitored the animals and were comfortable there were no observed problems. Despite careful monitoring of the introduction of these animals, the adult female attacked the juvenile female on March 5, 2023, which died quickly despite resuscitation efforts. The remaining juvenile capybara is now separated from the adult female and the facility is working with the SSP on how to move forward. Animal introductions can be unpredictable and can adversely affect the health and well-being of the animals involved. Animals housed in the same primary enclosure must be compatible. Animals shall not be housed near animals that interfere with their health or cause them discomfort.

To be corrected by COB 3/29/23

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with the facility representative.

Prepared By: JEFFREY LEE

USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:
29-MAR-2023

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL
OFFICER

Received by Title: Facility Representative

Date:
29-MAR-2023



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Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
3503	93-C-0013	001	SANTA BARBARA ZOOLOGICAL FOUNDATION	23-MAR-2023

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000002	<i>Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris</i>	CAPYBARA
000002	Total	