



## Inspection Report

WILSON HORSE & MULE SALE INC  
1050 W CEMETERY RD  
COOKEVILLE, TN 38506

Customer ID: **38048**

Certificate: **63-B-0180**

Site: 001

WILSON HORSE & MULE SALE  
INC

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 08-SEP-2022

**2.40(b)(3)**                      **Critical**                      **Repeat**

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

At approximately 1pm on Thursday 9/8/22, the inspector found a dead male black llama (auction tag 5930) in an enclosure in the alpaca/llama annex. No auction staff or public were in the area. The inspector went into the office to find the licensee but was told she was not on site. The inspector returned to the annex and found a young male staff member looking at the llama. When asked about the llama, he stated that the llama had spent the morning constantly sitting down and that whenever anyone asked him to get up he would sit down again. He stated they were able to get the llama into the sale ring but that "he must have finally died" after being returned to the enclosure. When asked if he had reported any of these observations to a supervisor or the auction owners he stated that he assumed they already knew. The inspector later learned from the licensee that the llama had sold at 11:41 am. The licensee was not aware that the auction staff had noted the abnormal behavior of the llama prior to the sale and thus the attending veterinarian was not notified. Any abnormalities observed related to animal health, behavior and well-being should be conveyed in a timely and accurate manner to the attending veterinarian to allow for appropriate diagnosis and treatment. The observation of animals may be accomplished by someone other than the attending veterinarian such as staff members but there must be a mechanism in place to pass the information on to the attending veterinarian. Daily observation of all animals is necessary to assess their

**Prepared By:** SUSANNE BRUNKHORST

USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

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OFFICER

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health and well-being; if any problems of animal health, behavior and well-being are noted, they must be conveyed to the attending veterinarian in a timely and accurate manner.

### 2.131(b)(1)

### Repeat

#### Handling of animals.

Handling of multiple animals at the auction was not done as expeditiously and carefully as possible.

\*A young male employee was standing just inside the gate in an enclosure in the goat/sheep annex housing goats. He consulted a clipboard he was holding and attempted to separate and remove a particular goat from the group in the enclosure. Another goat attempted to sneak out the partially open gate behind the employee. The employee kicked this goat away from the gate to keep it from escaping the enclosure. When the employee noticed the inspector present in the area, he stopped the behavior.

\*Numerous dogs were noted running off lead on the auction facility grounds including in the aisles of the barn where the large species were run out of the ring, in the aisles of the barn housing the larger hoofstock species and in the warm room housing the smaller exotic/wild species. One of the dogs who apparently belonged to a worker (black and grey heeler) was seen nipping at the heels of a zebra that was exiting the auction ring and returning to its enclosure/stall. Another dog (white with tan markings lab size mixed breed dog) belonging to a family looking at animals in the barn was running around sniffing at/looking into all the stalls. Two dogs were noted in the warm room. One small black and grey dog sat next to crates housing foxes being auctioned. The larger white with light brown spots dog was sniffing at and using his nose to push on enclosures housing animals that were set on the floor in the warm room. Dogs should not have access to the consigned animals. The dogs may cause discomfort and stress to the consigned animals, may injure the consigned animals and depending on the species may transmit diseases/parasites to the auction animals.

\*A pen/enclosure housing sheep and goats was overcrowded. There were so many sheep being confined and held in the enclosure that the sheep had no room to turn around or lie down. The animals took up all the floor space from side to side

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and back to front with the exception of the corner with the water bucket. It was difficult to see all the animals as some were hidden underneath/behind each other. Overcrowding can lead to stress, discomfort and overheating of the animals.

\*A loose goat was noted in the aisles in the goat/sheep annex. The goat attempted to crawl under an enclosure fence that it did not fit under when it saw the inspector. It almost got stuck but was able to get loose. Another enclosure was noted to have an unlatched gate that someone left open. This allowed the goat to escape the enclosure and possibly come to physical harm or escape the building.

All animals shall be handled as expeditiously and carefully as possible in a manner that does not cause trauma, behavioral stress, physical harm or unnecessary discomfort.

### 2.132(d)

#### Repeat

#### Procurement of dogs, cats, and other animals; dealers.

The inspector returned from lunch on Friday 9/9/22 to find that an individual (MS) had consigned two Virginia opossums, two bobcats and two grey squirrels for auction and that the animals had all already been sold during that short period of time. The auction staff member checking in the animals stated that she knew that the owner did not have a valid USDA license but that someone else in the office told her that it was ok to accept the consignment. The sale of wild and exotic mammals requires a USDA Animal Welfare Act license or a one-time exemption neither of which were in place at the time of the consignment. The auction may not consign any animal from a person required to be licensed but who does not hold a current, valid and unsuspended license.

### 3.87(a)(3)

#### Primary enclosures used to transport nonhuman primates.

Two red-handed tamarins were housed in a black metal bird cage type enclosure. The enclosure consisted of black horizontal wires spaced about 1 inch apart. The corner bars and central bars spaced about 6 inches apart made up the vertical surfaces. Thus the openings were 1inx6in. The tamarins were able to and did extend their hands through the bars

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to grab the bars. One of the tamarins extended its hand and almost its entire arm through the opening to try to reach out to the inspector. Openings large enough for the non-human primates to extend parts of its body through can lead to injury to the non-human primates or to other animals/people nearby. The nonhuman primate shall at all times be securely contained within the enclosure such that it cannot put any part of its body outside the enclosure. Correct by 10/31/22.

**3.127(c)**

**Repeat**

**Facilities, outdoor.**

Many wet enclosures were still noted throughout the auction grounds on both days. The enclosures were both covered (under roof) and open. There was improvement noted in that the roofed enclosures in the barn that were wet during the March 2022 auction were dry. However several of the outdoor open enclosures were still very wet and muddy especially those near the roofed barn. In addition, several enclosures in the covered arena area were completely wet and soaked on both Thursday and Friday. The affected animals included bison, water buffalo, sheep and goats. The enclosures were wet and slippery with wet dirt/hay/bedding and mud. Animals were noted with mud/dirt caked on their feet, legs and sides from lying down in the wet enclosures. Drainage issues can lead to multiple problems including contamination of feed/hay fed on the ground, contaminated haircoats/skin of the animals, odors, fly/pest issues and unstable slippery footing for the animals. A suitable method shall be provided to rapidly eliminate excess water.

**3.131(c)**

**Repeat**

**Sanitation.**

Two housekeeping issues need to be addressed.

\*Trash and other non-animal related items were noted in enclosures housing animals. One bison was noted eating a piece of twine. Ingestion of inedible foreign objects can lead to gastrointestinal obstructions. The floor of one enclosure (triangular shaped) housing five goats was littered with pieces of lumber, two plastic bottles and a bent piece of scrap metal. One of the goats (auction tag 1447) had one hoof caught in between the piece of metal and a piece of lumber. The

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goats may injure themselves on the items.

\*The insulation on the ceiling and walls of the arena holding many enclosures housing sheep, goats, pigs and young exotic species such as camel, nilgai and addax during this inspection is coming loose from the ceiling/walls. The yellow insulation material appears dirty, discolored and contaminated. Strips of it are hanging down over the animal enclosures and may fall into the enclosures. Ingestion or contact with the material may lead to injury or irritation of the animals. Buildings and grounds must be kept clean with all trash placed in designated areas and in good repair to protect the animals from injury and to facilitate the required husbandry practices.

### 3.137(a)(1)

#### Primary enclosures used to transport live animals.

Two enclosures housing hedgehogs (auction tags 1225 and 1226) were not of sufficient structural strength and construction. The enclosures were small plastic baskets made without a top. A top had been constructed by placing a piece of chicken wire over the top of the basket and fastening it with zip ties. The chicken wire was loose and easily moved when touched. One of the tops had sunken into the enclosure and was touching the back of the hedgehog (1225). The lack of structural strength means that the animals could come to physical harm if the baskets were to be kicked or knocked over accidentally or if someone placed something on top of the baskets. The structural strength of the enclosures housing animals shall be sufficient to contain the live animals and to withstand the rigors of transportation. Correct by 10/31/22.

### 3.137(a)(6)

#### Repeat

#### Primary enclosures used to transport live animals.

During this inspection several transport/auction enclosures did not have handles. Two enclosures each housing one paca had no handles (auction tags 354 and 355). One enclosure housing ten prairie dogs had no handles. The prairie dogs could touch all sides and the top of the enclosure (auction tag 478). These enclosures had no handholds for the auction

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staff to use to safely carry the enclosures without coming into contact with the animals and potentially getting bitten or scratched or potentially tilting/dropping the enclosure. Adequate handholds or other devices for lifting shall be provided for all enclosures.

### 3.137(d)

#### Repeat

#### Primary enclosures used to transport live animals.

During this inspection several transport/auction enclosures housing animals that did not contain any litter or suitable absorbent material to absorb and cover excreta. One enclosure housing three cavy (auction tag 061) contained litter but it was completely soaked and wet all day Thursday 9/8/22. The animals had no dry place to sit the entire day and their feet appeared wet. Multiple ferret enclosures did not contain any litter or absorbent material (auction tags 371, 402, 403). Fecal material was noted in the corner of one of the enclosures (402) and one of the enclosures was wet and the spilled food had absorbed some of the moisture (371). Lack of absorbent material/litter to cover excreta and wastes can cause skin/coat contamination, distress and increased risk of disease. Animals must be provided clean litter of a suitable absorbent material that can absorb and cover excreta.

### 3.137(e)

#### Repeat

#### Primary enclosures used to transport live animals.

Multiple animal enclosures were not clearly marked on top and on one side with the words Live Animal or Wild Animal. Once the warm room attendant was made aware of the requirement, she started attaching the markings to enclosures not so marked. Affected animal enclosures included a coatimundi (auction tag 254), African Crested porcupines (253, 354), caracals (143), and five ferrets (247-251). Accurate markings are necessary to ensure that everyone who comes near the enclosure has knowledge of what may be in the enclosure and how to properly orient it. Enclosures shall be clearly marked on top and on one or more sides with the words 'Live Animal' or 'Wild Animal' in letters not less than 1 inch in height and with arrows or other markings to indicate the upright position.

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### 3.140(b)

#### Care in transit.

During this inspection live animals were observed being removed from their enclosure and not being placed into another suitable enclosure/facility. Three people (not identified as staff) were noted removing two young nilgai and another young animal from their auction enclosures. They set the animals on the cement floor of the auction building just in front of the auction ring in a very crowded area with lots of people standing shoulder to shoulder watching the auction and others sitting in the bleachers adjacent to the ring. The inspector was told they were anticipating the sale of their animals but other animals were still being auctioned and it was not yet time for their animals to be sold. This area is a high traffic area with people entering/leaving the ring, entering/leaving the warm room and exiting the auction area into the large barn. It is noisy and crowded. The animals startled and tried to move away and started to kick out. One of the people picked up and held the startled nilgai. The animals were showing signs of discomfort and stress. By not being in a suitable enclosure the animals could have been injured, people could have been injured or the animals could have escaped. Live animals shall not be removed from their primary enclosures unless placed in other primary enclosures or facilities conforming to the requirements in the Animal Welfare Act standards. Correct by 10/31/22.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with facility representatives and the licensees.

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### Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
38048	63-B-0180	001	WILSON HORSE & MULE SALE INC	08-SEP-2022

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000024	<i>Cavia porcellus</i>	DOMESTIC GUINEA PIG
000003	<i>Callithrix jacchus</i>	COMMON MARMOSET
000190	<i>Bos taurus</i>	CATTLE / COW / OX / WATUSI
000182	<i>Capra hircus</i>	DOMESTIC GOAT
000019	<i>Sus scrofa domestica</i>	DOMESTIC PIG / POTBELLY PIG / MICRO PIG
000274	<i>Ovis aries aries</i>	SHEEP INCLUDING ALL DOMESTIC BREEDS
000004	<i>Vulpes zerda</i>	FENNEC FOX
000004	<i>Dolichotis patagonum</i>	PATAGONIAN CAVY / MARA
000006	<i>Camelus dromedarius</i>	DROMEDARY CAMEL
000008	<i>Equus quagga</i>	BURCHELL'S / GRANT'S / CHAPMAN'S / PLAINS ZEBRA
000023	<i>Bubalus bubalis</i>	ASIATIC WATER BUFFALO
000030	<i>Lama glama</i>	LLAMA
000045	<i>Lama pacos</i>	ALPACA
000009	<i>Petaurus breviceps</i>	SUGAR GLIDER
000009	<i>Potos flavus</i>	KINKAJOU
000018	<i>Nasua nasua</i>	SOUTH AMERICAN COATI
000035	<i>Bos primigenius indicus</i>	ZEBU
000016	<i>Chinchilla lanigera</i>	CHINCHILLA (DOMESTICATED)
000115	<i>Atelerix albiventris</i>	FOUR-TOED HEDGEHOG (MOST COMMON PET HEDGEHOG)
000014	<i>Bos grunniens</i>	YAK
000002	<i>Caracal caracal</i>	CARACAL
000002	<i>Felis silvestris catus</i>	CAT ADULT
000014	<i>Bison bison</i>	AMERICAN BISON
000001	<i>Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris</i>	CAPYBARA
000006	<i>Hystrix cristata</i>	AFRICAN CRESTED PORCUPINE
000001	<i>Coendou prehensilis</i>	PREHENSILE-TAILED PORCUPINE
000002	<i>Cuniculus paca</i>	LOWLAND PACA
000001	<i>Crossarchus obscurus</i>	KUSIMANSE
000001	<i>Bassariscus astutus</i>	RINGTAIL
000003	<i>Cebus capucinus</i>	WHITE-HEADED / WHITE-THROATED CAPUCHIN
000003	<i>Tamandua mexicana</i>	NORTHERN TAMANDUA
000002	<i>Lynx rufus</i>	BOBCAT
000002	<i>Choloepus didactylus</i>	LINNAEUS'S TWO-TOED SLOTH
000002	<i>Didelphis virginiana</i>	VIRGINIA OPOSSUM
000002	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>	EASTERN GREY SQUIRREL
000020	<i>Mustela putorius furo</i>	DOMESTIC FERRET
000001	<i>Eira barbara</i>	TAYRA
000002	<i>Otocyon megalotis</i>	BAT-EARED FOX
000048	<i>Cynomys ludovicianus</i>	BLACK-TAILED PRAIRIE DOG
000002	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	RED FOX (INCLUDES SILVER FOX & CROSS FOX)
000003	<i>Felis silvestris catus</i>	CAT KITTEN
000001	<i>Euphractus sexcinctus</i>	YELLOW ARMADILLO
000003	<i>Notamacropus rufogriseus</i>	BENNETT'S WALLABY / RED-NECKED WALLABY
000004	<i>Nasuella olivacea</i>	MOUNTAIN COATI
000017	<i>Ammotragus lervia</i>	BARBARY SHEEP
000001	<i>Arctictis binturong</i>	BINTURONG
000001	<i>Chlorocebus pygerythrus</i>	VERVET
000003	<i>Lemur catta</i>	RING-TAILED LEMUR
000002	<i>Callithrix geoffroyi</i>	WHITE-FRONTED MARMOSET





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000002	<i>Saguinus midas</i>		RED-HANDED TAMARIN	
000030	<i>Dama dama</i>		FALLOW DEER	
000014	<i>Ovis aries vignei</i>		URIAL SHEEP	
000002	<i>Boselaphus tragocamelus</i>		NILGAI	
000001	<i>Taurotragus oryx</i>		COMMON ELAND	
000001	<i>Addax nasomaculatus</i>		ADDAX	
001230	<b>Total</b>			