



## Inspection Report

Real Pets Corp  
30 N 3rd St  
Womelsdorf, PA 19567

Customer ID: **24564**  
Certificate: **23-B-0200**  
Site: 004  
REAL PETS CORP

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION  
Date: 31-MAY-2017

### 2.40(b)(2) DIRECT

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

Thirteen Guinea Pigs were observed during inspection with a variety of medical conditions. This included:

1. One adult female guinea pig had extensive hair loss over her back and rump. There were large multifocal patches where the underlying skin was bright red that the surface was broken (consistent with traumatic wounds). The fur surrounding it was tinged yellow. When the facility representatives were asked about this animal they stated that they had observed these wounds and that they were treating them. The licensee produced a tub of Nitrofurazone ointment (which is consistent with the yellow coloration on the fur). The licensee stated that the guinea pig had not been examined by a veterinarian and there were no facility records to indicate the date that the condition was first observed or how long the facility had been treating the condition. Although the program of veterinary care does include treatment for hair loss (including either by observation or treatment with Nitrofurazone) it does not specifically address traumatic wounds such as these, nor does it provide guidance for evaluating the severity of wounds appropriate treatment without a veterinarian. The affected animal was present in the first row, first rack, 5th enclosure down. She was a smooth haired white guinea pig with black fur on her face. This animal was identified to the licensee as requiring examination by a veterinarian the same day of inspection.
2. One juvenile white smooth haired guinea pig was present in the present in the first row, first rack, 5th enclosure down. This animal appeared only a few days old and was seen attempting to nurse from animal #1 above. Both eyes on this guinea pig were sunken / being held partially closed and it was lethargic. It was also considerably smaller than the other juveniles in the same enclosure (including those also observed nursing from the same female). It was observed repeatedly being walked on by other animals in the enclosure with limited reaction and was also seen being pushed off of the female when attempting to nurse. There were two females with litters housed in this enclosure and when asked, the facility representative stated that they had not observed any offspring with problems in this enclosure. This animal was not receiving any treatment or supplemental care (such as separation of the female and litter to reduce being pushed around by older co-housed juveniles). This animal was identified to the licensee as requiring examination by a veterinarian the same day of inspection.
3. One juvenile tan and white medium haired guinea pig was present in the first row, second rack, top enclosure. This animal had incomplete hair loss on both sides. The underlying skin appeared flaky but without scabs.

Prepared By: MARKMANN ROBERT, A C I USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

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4. One juvenile white smooth haired guinea pig was present in the first row, second rack, 3rd enclosure down. This animal was holding both eyes partially closed / squinted. The eyes appeared glassy and there was brown discolored fur on the head and rump consistent with reduced grooming giving it an overall unthrifty appearance. The treatment for eye abnormalities are not addressed in the program of veterinary care and the facility had not identified this animal as requiring care.
5. One juvenile white and liver colored smooth haired guinea pig was present in the second row, first rack, 4th enclosure down. The right eye of this animal was sunken / appeared squinted. It was otherwise active and alert. The treatment for eye abnormalities are not addressed in the program of veterinary care and there is no record that the facility had identified this animal as requiring care or started any treatment.
6. One juvenile tricolor (black, brown, and white) smooth haired guinea pig was present in the second row, first rack, 4th enclosure down. This animal had a firm movable mass on its neck / under the chin that was approximately 2 cm in diameter. The skin appeared reddened and inflamed in this area. The treatment for masses is not addressed in the program of veterinary care and there is no record that the facility had identified this animal as requiring care or started any treatment.
7. One juvenile brown agouti and white guinea pig was present in the second row, first rack, 4th enclosure down. This animal had an area of hair loss on the left side of the nose that was approximately 1.5 cm and occupied nearly the entire area from the nose to the eye on that side. The underlying skin was crusty and had numerous scabs.
8. One juvenile tricolor (brown agouti, tan, and white) smooth haired guinea pig was present in the second row, first rack, 4th enclosure down. This animal had an area of hair loss covering the bridge of its nose that was approximately 1.5 cm. The underlying skin was crusty and had numerous scabs.
9. One juvenile brown agouti smooth haired guinea pig was present in the second row, first rack, 4th enclosure down. This animal had an area of hair loss on the right side of the nose covering approximately 1 cm and extending approximately ½ way from the nose to its right eye. The underlying skin was crusty and had several scabs.
10. One juvenile grey agouti and white smooth haired guinea pig was present in the second row, first rack, 4th enclosure down. This animal had an area of hair loss on the left side of its face above the left eye that was approximately 1 cm by ½ cm. The underlying skin was crusty and had several scabs.
11. One juvenile white with black smooth haired guinea pig was present in the second row, first rack, 4th enclosure down. This animal had multiple areas of hair loss on its face, surrounding the left eye, behind the left ear, and on the left neck. In some areas the skin appeared flaky while others had small scabs. Additionally the pinna of the left ear had an irregular margin that appeared chewed.

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When asked about the animals #7-11 the licensee stated that the animals in this enclosure were likely those that had been identified as having problems and were unfit for sale therefore problems were more concentrated in that enclosure. He stated that those with the crusts and scabs appeared to have "ringworm" and that treatment for this condition was included in the program of veterinary care. When asked however, neither he nor the employees working in that area were aware of any treatments that had been started and there was no evidence of topical treatments present on these animals at the time they were identified by APHIS Officials. There also were no record of observation of these conditions or any treatments noted on the cage cards or other facility records. The licensee began topical treatment with an antifungal medication during the inspection.

12. One adult brown and white Abyssinian-type guinea pig was present in the type 5th row, 5th rack, 3rd enclosure down. This animal was holding its left eye lids nearly closed and it did not appear that an eye was present. There was no discharge from this eye.

13. One adult white and black smooth-haired guinea pig was present in the type 5th row, 5th rack, 5th enclosure down. This animal was holding its left eye lids nearly closed and it did not appear that an eye was present. There was a mild to moderate amount of crusty discharge from this eye.

When asked about animals #12 & 13, the licensee stated that these animals were each missing one eye and that it had been seen multiple times by the veterinarian, but that there were no records of advice pertaining to this animal (such as veterinarian recommendations for observations, when care would be needed, or whether these animals are healthy enough for breeding).

Standardized treatment protocols provided by the Attending Veterinarian in the Program of Veterinary Care (PVC) may be used by the facility to treat common conditions (such as the hair loss for animals 7-11), however, there is no indication that the facility had initiated treatment required by the PVC. When animals are identified as needing care the facility must either initiate care as outlined in the PVC or obtain care by another veterinarian. The animals with veterinary abnormalities identified above require examination and treatment by a veterinarian to prevent worsening of the conditions and unnecessary suffering. Additionally, the licensee must provide documentation of such examination and treatment to APHIS Officials upon request.

The two animals identified as requiring immediate attention were brought to the Attending Veterinarian for care prior to the exit interview. All others must be examined and treated no later than close of business June 2, 2017.

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### 3.28(c)(2)(iv)

#### PRIMARY ENCLOSURES.

A pair of Russian hamsters (1 M & 1 F) had two litters in the same enclosure. There were 4 older juveniles as well as 5 newborns in an enclosure with fresh bedding. A pair of Djungarian hamsters (1 M & 1 F) had two litters in the same enclosure. There were 2 older juveniles and 6 newborns in an enclosure with fresh bedding. In both instances the older juveniles appeared to be old enough to be from a previous litter and weaned, but had not been removed. A nursing female hamster with her litter cannot be housed in an enclosure with other hamsters. In both instances the bedding was freshly changed indicating that employees had recently changed the bedding, but failed to recognize the importance of separating weaning-aged older offspring. The older litters were removed from enclosures during the inspection. Licensee must ensure that older litters are weaned and removed from enclosures to prevent newborn offspring from being housed in the same enclosure with other hamsters. Correct by June 1, 2017.

### 3.31(a)(2)

#### SANITATION.

There was an adult Syrian hamster housed in an enclosure that had excessively wet bedding. The bedding in this enclosure appeared to be clean (almost no fecal material present) but was entirely soaked with water. There was no dry bedding anywhere in this enclosure and the hamster was also obviously wet. The enclosure was attached to an automatic watering line which appeared to malfunction causing the soaked bedding, however, employees had just finished cleaning this area and did not appear to identify this enclosure as requiring attention. Once APHIS officials identified the wet enclosure, the animal was immediately transferred to a new enclosure. There were two additional enclosures housing Russian hamsters with litters that had excessive accumulations of dirty bedding. Animals housed on wet and dirty bedding may become soiled, chilled, and/or ill. The licensee must ensure that animals in wet and/or dirty enclosures are moved to clean dry enclosures to ensure the health and comfort of the animals. In the event that a primary enclosure becomes wet due to leakage of the watering system animals must be transferred to a clean dry enclosure and the watering malfunction fixed to prevent a repeat occurrence. Correct from this day forward.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with the General Manager.

#### Additional Inspectors

Miller Dana, Supervisory Animal Care Specialist

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## Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
24564	23-B-0200	004	REAL PETS CORP	31-MAY-17

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000532	<i>Cavia porcellus</i>	DOMESTIC GUINEA PIG
000146	<i>Cricetulus griseus</i>	CHINESE HAMSTER
000202	<i>Meriones unguiculatus</i>	MONGOLIAN GERBIL (COMMON PET / RESEARCH VARIETY)
000320	<i>Mesocricetus auratus</i>	SYRIAN / GOLDEN HAMSTER (COMMON PET/RESEARCH TYPE)
000004	<i>Mustela putorius furo</i>	DOMESTIC FERRET
000129	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	DOMESTIC RABBIT / EUROPEAN RABBIT
000380	<i>Phodopus campbelli</i>	CAMPBELL'S DESERT HAMSTER / RUSSIAN HAMSTER
000222	<i>Phodopus roborovskii</i>	ROBOROVSKI'S DWARF HAMSTER
000645	<i>Phodopus sungorus</i>	DJUNGARIAN / RUSSIAN WINTER WHITE DWARF HAMSTER
<b>002580</b>	<b>Total</b>	