



Inspection Report

Norman Yoder
11024 Dover Road
Apple Creek, OH 44606

Customer ID: **503533**
Certificate: **31-A-0705**
Site: 001
NORMAN E YODER

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION
Date: 16-DEC-2025

2.50(a)(1)

Time and method of identification.

The facility uses USDA tags on a collar as their form of official identification for dogs over 16 weeks of age. An adult male Cavalier King Charles Spaniel was observed without a USDA tag. When inquiring with the licensee about how this dog is being provided with official identification, he stated that he assigned a USDA tag number to the dog but has not put the collar on the dog. Also, an enclosure housing 12 dogs of various ages was observed to be without cage cards or any sign of individual identification. When inquiring about the 12 dogs the facility representative stated that 3 of the dogs are 16 weeks of age or older and are listed on the APHIS 7005 form. When asked about their USDA tags the representative stated that he assigns them a numbered tag but does not place it on the animal until they are approximately 6 months of age. An acceptable form of official identification is necessary for APHIS officials to positively identify animals for inspection and to properly trace their movements.

All live dogs over the age of 16 weeks shall be identified by an official tag affixed to a collar around the animal's neck, by a legible tattoo marking approved by the Administrator, or by a microchip placed under the dog's skin. The licensee must apply one of these forms of identification to the dog. The licensee must ensure that all dogs have an official form of identification at all times.

Correct by 31 December 2025

2.50(a)(2)

Repeat

Time and method of identification.

An enclosure housing 9 puppies of various ages and from different litters were observed without any form of individual identification or cage cards. Additionally, a litter of 2 puppies born 11 December 2025, had no form of identification. The licensee states he hasn't made a cage card for them yet. An acceptable form of official identification is necessary for APHIS officials to positively identify animals for inspection and to properly trace their movements.

The licensee must ensure that all dogs less than 16 weeks of age are identified by an official tag as described in Sec. 2.51, a legible tattoo approved by the Administrator, a microchip, or a cage card (if maintained as a litter with their dam and housed within the same primary enclosure). Cage cards should contain at least the following information when being utilized for identification and record keeping purposes: letters USDA, facility license number, ID of dam or foster mother,

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individual identification number, date of birth, sex, breed, description (color, markings, etc.), date the animal died, euthanized, sold, or removed.

2.75(a)(1)(v)

Records: Dealers and exhibitors.

The facility is not maintaining adequate records of acquisition and disposition. Cage cards are used for acquisition records for litters of puppies; however, they do not contain all the required information. There were two litters that were identified by cage cards, however, the licensee failed to adequately document the active number of puppies of the litter and note the dates of disposition for puppies that are now deceased. One litter of Pomeranian puppies had 4 puppies listed on the cage card, of which 3 are still present. And one litter of Yorkies had 6 puppies listed, but only 4 are still present. The facility representative stated the other puppies had died.

Accurate record keeping is essential so that APHIS inspectors can adequately identify the movement of dogs into and out of the facility, especially in cases of loss or theft. Each dealer shall make, keep, and maintain records for forms which fully and correctly disclose the information concerning each dog purchased or otherwise acquired, owned, held, or which is transported, sold, or otherwise disposed of by that dealer. The records shall include any offspring born to any animal while in his or her control.

Correct by maintaining complete records for acquisition by 31 December 2025.

2.134(b)

Contingency planning.

The facility has not performed an annual review of their contingency plan since 2022. The contingency plan is developed so that the handling, treatment, transportation, housing, and care of animals is provided for in the event of an emergency or disaster. This plan must be reviewed by the dealer (Class A licensee) on at least an annual basis to ensure that it adequately addresses the criteria listed above. Each licensee must maintain documentation of their annual reviews, including any amendments or changes to their plan from the previous year's review. Correct by conducting an annual review of the facility's contingency plan and documenting the date of the review and any changes made.

Correct by 1 January 2026.

3.1(a)

Repeat

Housing facilities, general.

The outside portion of an enclosure in the large breed building housing 12 canines ranging from 14 weeks to adult, is not being maintained in good repair. There is a missing fence board resulting in a hole large enough for these dogs to escape through. The facility placed a section of wire fencing over the bottom portion of the hole that is approximately 2 feet in height but could still potentially allow the dogs to jump over the section of fencing and escape the enclosure.

The dogs in these enclosures could potentially become stuck in the hole in the fence, escape, or be injured due to not properly maintaining housing facilities in good repair. Housing facilities for dogs must be kept in good repair, and they must protect the animals from injury, contain the animals securely, and restrict other animals from entering.

3.1(c)(1)

Repeat

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Housing facilities, general.

The facility is not maintaining surfaces in the housing facilities to ensure they are constructed in a manner and made of materials that allow them to be readily cleaned and sanitized or removed or replaced when worn or soiled. Multiple surfaces within the whelping sheltered housing facility and the small breed housing facility including: solid flooring panels, PVC piping of an automatic waterer, paneling of the walls, and sections of the slatted raised flooring, have chew damage resulting in excessive pitting in the material. The chew damage has also caused deep grooves in the material and curling of the previously flat panels. The excessively pitted surfaces cannot be appropriately cleaned and sanitized as dirt and pathogens can remain within the small pockets of space created in the damaged materials. There are 18 total enclosures housing 54 adult dogs and 15 puppies that have damaged surfaces.

The outdoor portion of an enclosure in the large breed sheltered housing facility containing 12 dogs has a large piece of untreated wood at the base of the vertical fencing. Surfaces in housing facilities made of unsealed wood cannot be properly cleaned or sanitized when permeable to moisture. The licensee must ensure that all building surfaces the animals come in contact with are impervious to moisture and able to be readily cleaned and sanitized.

Additionally, the facility is not maintaining surfaces to be free from jagged edges that might injure the animals. In the small breed sheltered housing building, there are areas of the slatted flooring of raised enclosures where sections of the flooring are missing. The edges from the missing pieces of the flooring are sharp and uneven. The sections missing flooring are approximately 4" x 4". This is a large enough space for a small breed dog to possibly step through the hole and become injured from the sharp edges. There are 5 total enclosures housing a 19 adult dogs that have missing pieces of flooring with sharp edges.

If damage occurs to surfaces in the housing facilities, the facility must ensure the surfaces can be removed or replaced when worn or soiled. This will ensure that all surfaces remain readily capable of being cleaned and sanitized. The surfaces also need to be maintained in a manner so they are free from jagged edges or sharp points that might injure the dogs.

3.1(c)(3)

Repeat

Housing facilities, general.

The outside runs of 3 sheltered housing buildings are not being cleaned frequently enough. The runs on the small breed sheltered housing facility and the large breed sheltered housing facility consist of gravel. Due to the time of year, there is snow compacted into the gravel. The outside runs of the whelping building are raised wire enclosures with solid flooring panels overlaying the wire. The facility representative reports all these areas are cleaned "as needed". There are numerous piles of feces in these runs. Some of the feces appear frozen, indicating the length of time it has been present in the enclosures is prolonged and not being removed on a daily basis.

In the small breed sheltered housing building, there is an excessive buildup of thick, dark grey-black, organic material and hair smeared on the inside part of the door flaps that lead to the outside run of three enclosures housing 8 adult dogs. The facility representative also reports these surfaces are cleaned "as needed".

The walls surrounding the door flaps of the small breed and large breed sheltered housing buildings have a buildup of tan-brown organic residue covering approximately 60-90% of the surface. The outer surface of the door flaps also has this

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built-up residue in the majority of the enclosures. The facility representative also reports these surfaces are cleaned "as needed".

Hard surfaces with which the dogs come into contact must be spot cleaned daily and sanitized in accordance with §3.11(b) to prevent accumulation of excreta and reduce disease hazards such as odors, vermin, insects, and other pest infestation. Floors made of dirt or gravel must be raked or spot cleaned with sufficient frequency to ensure all animals the freedom to avoid excreta.

3.11(a) Repeat
Cleaning, sanitization, housekeeping, and pest control.

The primary enclosures in the small breed sheltered housing building are not being sufficiently cleaned. The wash down trough underneath the pens has a thick buildup of feces, dark brown organic residue, hair, dead insects, rodent droppings, and a deceased rodent. It was not clear based on discussions with the facility representative the last time this area was cleaned. Surfaces retaining a buildup of excreta, hair, and dead insects and rodents can serve as a source to attract more pests, contribute to undesirable odors in the building, and other disease hazards.

Excreta and other waste must be removed from under primary enclosures as often as necessary to prevent an excessive accumulation of feces, reduce disease hazards, insects, rodents, and odors. The amount of buildup of excreta in these troughs is evidence that cleaning of this area is not being done as often as necessary.

3.11(d) Repeat
Cleaning, sanitization, housekeeping, and pest control.

The facility does not have in place an effective program for the control of insects and pests. The small breed sheltered housing building has an ongoing cockroach infestation. There were live cockroaches observed to be walking along walls, ceilings, wash down troughs, and along the enclosures of the interior of the building. A large adhesive insect mat was observed to have approximately 100 live and dead cockroaches of different life stages adhered to it. There was also a cluster of approximately 40 adult cockroaches along the top partition of an enclosure actively housing dogs.

It was also observed that there is an excessive accumulation of rodent droppings in the wash down trough. There was a dead mouse observed in the trough. There were open, uncovered rodent bait packages on top of vacant enclosures.

A dead mouse was seen just outside the whelping housing facility.

A dead rat was within the outer run of the large breed sheltered housing building. This run housed an adult Goldendoodle and an adult Boston Terrier.

The facility had a third party pest control company visit the property since the last inspection on 31 July 2025. They treated the walls in the whelping building but not the small breed building.

While the facility is implementing methods to attempt to control the insect and rodent problems, it is still not effective. Pests can carry potential diseases and lead to contamination of food, bedding, or other supplies used for the animals. Having rodent bait out in the open poses a risk of accidental ingestion by the dogs, and, if consumed, could be lethal.

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Likewise, if a dog were to ingest a rodent that died by rodent bait, the dog could still succumb to the effects of the bait the rodent ingested, as the chemical is still active.

The facility must have an effective pest control program established and maintained to reduce contamination of pests in animal areas and promote health and well-being of the animals.

3.13(a)(3) Repeat

Veterinary care for dogs.

The facility is not following the program of veterinary care for vaccinations. The Program of Veterinary Care currently prescribes dogs will be vaccinated for rabies at 18 weeks of age, booster at 1 year, and every 3 years going forward. The program currently prescribes dogs will be vaccinated for distemper/parvovirus (DAPP), and leptospirosis at 14 weeks of age, 18 weeks of age, and annually going forward.

The facility was cited for failing to have 125 dogs up to date on their rabies vaccine and 74 dogs not up to date with DAPP/Lepto (7-way) vaccine at the previous inspection (INS-0001390673) conducted on 31 July 2025. A correction date of 19 August 2025 to correct the issue was provided to the facility at the exit meeting following delivery of the report. The facility representative stated that as of today he has yet to administer vaccines for rabies or DAPP/Lepto to the overdue dogs remaining at the facility.

Failure to follow the preventative care schedule for vaccinations in the Program of Veterinary Care does not ensure the dogs are receiving appropriate protection against contagious and deadly diseases such as distemper, parvo, leptospirosis, and rabies which can lead to illness and discomfort to the dogs. The facility must follow the vaccination schedule approved by the attending veterinarian in the Program of Veterinary Care to protect the dogs from deadly or contagious diseases.

3.13(b)(3) Repeat

Veterinary care for dogs.

The facility does not have the names of all treatments/procedures administered to the animals recorded in the medical records. When inquiring about the date of birth for a new litter of puppies the facility representative stated the puppies were born last Thursday, 11 December 2025. The representative stated he was sure of the date because he had already removed the dewclaws on these puppies. When APHIS officials inquired if the procedure was documented on a medical record the representative stated he discontinued recording procedures such as dewclaw removal in the medical records for the dogs.

Failure to record the names and dates for all treatments or procedures administered does not allow for APHIS officials to determine if adequate veterinary care has been provided for animals covered under the Animal Welfare Act. The licensee must ensure that the names of all vaccines and treatments administered, and the dates of administration are recorded and maintained.

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

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Additional Inspectors:

Lauren Murphy, VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER

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Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
503533	31-A-0705	001	NORMAN E YODER	16-DEC-2025

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000088	<i>Canis familiaris</i>	DOG ADULT
000045	<i>Canis familiaris</i>	DOG PUPPY
000133	Total	