



## Inspection Report

Kirsty Lee L L C  
8311 N.E. 166th St.  
Kenmore, WA 98028

Customer ID: **325396**  
Certificate: **91-C-0138**  
Site: 001  
Kirsty Lee, L L C

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION  
Date: 30-NOV-2015

### 2.40(b)(2) REPEAT

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

\*\*While reviewing treatment records it was found that the rabbit Charcoal , a 2 year old fuzzy lop, had been observed with symptoms of upper respiratory illness on 6/26/15. Records indicate that she was finally seen by the attending veterinarian on 7/21/2015 and prescribed treatment approximately three weeks after her condition was first noticed. However, this treatment was not started until 8/8/2015, two weeks after recommendations were made and more than a month after her condition was first noticed by staff. This prolonged period between observation of illness, notification of the attending veterinarian, and treatment does not constitute adequate veterinary care for this animal, and may have contributed to a longer course of illness.

\*\*While reviewing treatment records it was noted that the rabbit Icebreaker , a one and a half year old white fuzzy lop was prescribed a 10 day course of trimethoprim sulfa by the attending veterinarian. The drug log indicates that she stopped receiving treatment on day 7 of her course. Treatments resumed thirteen days later. Breaks in treatment without veterinary instruction to do so can lead to relapses in illness in animals.

\*\*The rabbits Indigo (small, grey, lionhead), Hazel (1 year old brown mini rex), and Honeycomb (1.5 year old blonde Holland lop) were removed from the herd for euthanasia. Medical records documenting examination by the attending veterinarian and reason for euthanasia were not available for review and whether the animals received appropriate veterinary care cannot be assessed.

\*\*The rabbits Jillian , a 2.5 year old red satin angora; Copper , a 1.5 year old copper and grey French angora; Passion a lionhead buck; and Nightshade a 1.5 year old dark brown mini rex, were found deceased. There is no evidence that necropsies were performed to potentially determine the cause of sudden death inn these animals.

\*\*It was reported by the licensee that there were no treatments administered from the bulk drug supply after 8/21/2015. However, a course of trimethoprim sulfa was prescribed by the attending veterinarian for the 2.5 year old chinchilla French lop, Dotsy on 8/20/2015. There is no record of this treatment being given to this animal. Failure to give prescribed treatment to an animal may prolong the animal s illness and does not constitute appropriate veterinary care.

\*\*A kit housed with and born to the four year old white Beveran rabbit Moonie was identified to have a congenital

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eye disorder by the licensee. Licensee and staff were caring for this animal in the hopes that its condition would improve. The inspector was informed by staff that this care included application of a flavored chapstick. Written instructions from the attending veterinarian directing this care were not available for review. It is not clear that the care given by the licensee is appropriate for this animal.

Failure to provide veterinary care and treatment in a timely manner can result in discomfort, pain, disability or death. The licensee must ensure that appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries are provided in a timely manner, and must provide documentation of these veterinary evaluations and treatments (if prescribed) to the inspectors upon request. This may include performance of necropsies on young, otherwise healthy rabbits who suddenly die in order to diagnose conditions that can cause illness in the herd.

This is a repeat noncompliant item previously cited on 4/10/2015 and 4/29/2015.

### 2.75(b)(1) REPEAT

#### RECORDS: DEALERS AND EXHIBITORS.

\*\*The facility has a method of documenting acquisitions and dispositions. However, the record of animals on hand is confusing and incomplete. Several rabbits listed as sold, including the two year old male white, angora lop Yeti ; the adult brown Polish mix Mrs ; the 2.5 year old French grey lop Dotsy, and the five month old brown female lionhead rabbit Mocha were identified as being at the facility by staff at the time of inspection. Records must be kept up to date in order to facilitate tracking of these animals.

\*\*Dates of birth are missing from the Animals on Hand log and many of the Acquisition/Disposition sheets. This information is necessary to facilitate identification and tracking of animals within the facility.

Accurate record keeping is essential to allow APHIS to accurately track animals and ensure that all animals are receiving proper care as required by the Animal Welfare Act. Additionally, specific information regarding sources for acquisition and disposition are necessary in the event of disease to facilitate tracking animal movement and to ensure animal health and welfare. The licensee must make, keep and maintain records which fully disclose information regarding all acquisitions and dispositions; including all births, deaths, animals euthanized as well as all other information required by this subsection.

This noncompliant item was previously cited on the inspection report dated 4/29/2015.

### 3.52(b) REPEAT

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### FACILITIES, OUTDOOR.

\*\*The outdoor rabbit enclosures were positioned into eight rows. The outermost enclosures of at least four rows did not have a rain/snow break to protect the animals from the wind, rain or snow. The shelter holding the eight rows of enclosures currently have thick plastic sheeting which provides some protection from the wind, rain, and snow on three sides. However, there are large gaps in the sheeting which could potentially expose the rabbits to adverse weather. Additionally, the plastic sheeting does not extend to the ground. On the day of the inspection the low temperature was recorded to be 25 degrees Fahrenheit.

The licensee must ensure that all animals are adequately protected from the adverse or extreme weather conditions on all sides of their enclosures as these conditions can stress the animals, leading to illness and injury. These animals must have adequate shelter to protect them from the wind, rain, snow and other inclement weather.

This is a repeat noncompliant item cited previously on inspection reports dated 4/29/2015 and 6/15/2015.

### 3.52(d) REPEAT

#### FACILITIES, OUTDOOR.

\*\*It was reported that a juvenile rabbit of Chockie s (female, one year old brown Holland lop) September litter had escaped and been killed by a dog while out at the beginning of October. Circumstances of the escape were not clear.

\*\*There is a large, approximately 12 ft gap in the front of the facility where fencing and a gate used to be. In addition, the gate of the perimeter fence at the back part of the facility was observed to be open, providing enough space for predators to enter the areas where the rabbits were housed.

Rabbits housed outdoors are vulnerable to attacks by predators; therefore outdoor housing facilities for rabbits are required to be fenced, or otherwise enclosed, to prevent the entrance of predators. Failure to maintain this fencing in a manner that excludes predators can lead to severe injury and / or the death of animals. In addition, as rabbits are prey species, presence of predators can cause stress even if they are not physically harmed. The licensee must ensure that the rabbit enclosures are fenced or are otherwise enclosed to minimize escape, to prevent entrance of predators and that the gates to such fencing are kept closed so that the fencing remains functional.

This is a repeat noncompliant item cited previously on reports dated 11/19/2014, 1/13/2015, 4/1/2015 and 4/29/2015.

### 3.53(a)(1) REPEAT

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### PRIMARY ENCLOSURES.

\*\*There are several enclosures that are not structurally sound to protect the animals from injury. The enclosures provided for the rabbits, including the flooring, are constructed of wire mesh. There is no additional source of support for the larger rabbits, allowing the flooring to sag significantly making the enclosures unstable under the weight of the animals. Four cages with sagging bottoms were observed. One of these housed three, large, seven month old black New Zealand mix rabbits identified as offspring being born to Raven , a 1.5 year old dark brown Flemish giant.

\*\*There were 4 metal cages that were identified to have excessive rust, which can affect the structural strength of the surfaces and prevent proper cleaning and sanitization.

\*\*There were two enclosures, one containing a mature spotted lop rabbit and one containing several juvenile rabbits with openings in the wire cage-front large enough for the rabbits to put their entire heads through the wire. The inspectors observed two rabbits, one adult and one juvenile putting their heads through these openings.

\*\*There was a small (approximately 2 square) section of broken wire flooring in the six month old brown Polish mix Devin s enclosure, exposing several sharp wire points and creating an opening large enough for a mature rabbit s limb to fit through. In addition, a hole in the bottom of an enclosure compromises the structural strength of the enclosure.

\*\*There was a large hole in the dog style kennel enclosure housing a rabbit located in the quarantine room.

Failure to provide enclosures that are structurally sound may lead to injury, ligament and muscle damage of these animals. The licensee must ensure that the enclosures are structurally sound so that the floors and sides of the primary enclosures are not sagging, excessively rusted, broken, or contain openings large enough to potentially cause injury to the rabbits. Additionally, the primary enclosures need to be maintained in good repair to prevent injury to the animals.

This is a repeat noncompliant item previously cited on reports dated 4/10/2015 and 4/29/2015.

### 3.53(a)(5) REPEAT

### PRIMARY ENCLOSURES.

\*\*This facility is not using properly constructed nesting boxes for females with litters less than a month old. Four litters of rabbits were observed by inspectors that did not contain nesting boxes, the youngest of which is recorded to have been born 11/24/15. A litter of four rabbits belonging to the six month old, female tan Polish mixed rabbit Devin was observed to be in a nest of hay and rabbit fur constructed on the wire bottom of the cage. These rabbits

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were born on 11/15/15. In addition, a staff member informed inspectors that dead kits had been found on the wire cage bottoms in the past.

Nesting boxes are necessary in order to have a safe place to give birth for the doe and to nurse her babies. It is also important to allow for the motor coordination and the heat-regulation capacity of the baby rabbits to develop. A nesting box needs to be provided to all females with a litter of less than a month old to ensure comfort and safety of the animals.

This is a repeat noncompliant item previously cited on the inspection report dated 4/29/2015.

### 3.53(c)(2)

#### PRIMARY ENCLOSURES.

\*\*There was a cage containing three seven month old black New Zealand mix rabbits identified as being born to Raven (dark brown Flemish giant). Each rabbit appears to be greater than 11.9 lbs. The cages measure 30 x 30 , or 2.5 by 2.5 . This is 6.25 square feet or 2.08 square feet per rabbit.

Each rabbit housed in a primary enclosure shall be provided a minimum amount of floor space according to USDA APHIS Animal Welfare Act regulations. For rabbits >5.4 lbs, the minimum amount of floor spaces is 5 square feet per rabbit or a floor space equivalent to a 3.8 x 3.8 square for three rabbits of this size.

Housing rabbits in an inappropriately sized enclosure may stress the animals. This can lead to increased susceptibility to disease, incompatibility, and fighting. Rabbits must be housed in enclosures with the minimum required floor space for their health and well-being.

Correct by 12/9/2015.

### 3.54(b) REPEAT

#### FEEDING.

\*\*At least 12 of the metal self-feeders attached to rabbit enclosures were observed to be excessively rusty, with small particles of rust flaking off into the inspector s hand when touched. Excessive rustiness can contaminate feed stored within the feeders as particles flake off into the food, possibly rendering it less nutritious, wholesome, and palatable to the rabbit.

The licensee must ensure that all food receptacles are cleaned and sanitized to minimize disease hazards.

Noncompliant items associated with feeding practices were also cited on inspection reports dated 11/19/2014,

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1/13/2015, 4/10/2015 and 4/29/2015.

### 3.55 DIRECT REPEAT

#### **WATERING.**

\*\*Inspectors observed that the colony of 103 larger rabbits and 4 litters of 4-5 kits appeared thirsty, licking at the water sippers at the back of their cages and gathering at the front of the cage when inspectors would pass. The water lines supplying the rabbits were frozen solid upon testing. In addition, water within the water bottles supplied to six rabbits not supplied by the water-line system were frozen. On the day of the inspection the low temperature was recorded to be 25 degrees Fahrenheit with a high of 40 degrees Fahrenheit.

After requesting the licensee give the rabbits water, the inspectors observed the rabbits drinking profusely and consistently. Two rabbits, Yeti , a 2 year old male, white angora lop, and Sasquatch , an adult male grey and white lop with red eyes, were observed continuously drinking water for approximately 20 minutes. After the 20 minute period the rabbits would periodically return to drink more water from the bottle. Other rabbits were very anxious and standing on their hind legs as the staff put the fresh water bottles on cages. Some of the rabbits appeared frantic and were observed pushing other rabbits out of the way to get to the water source.

Lack of drinking water can cause discomfort and dehydration which can cause distress and disorientation. Lack of sufficient water can cause health conditions that can be injurious or life threatening. The licensee must ensure that all rabbits have a sufficient amount of potable water daily, and that a plan exists to provide fresh, potable water to rabbits when water bottles and lines freeze in the winter.

The licensee was verbally instructed to provide water to the animals immediately. At approximately 2:30 pm, 3 hours after the problem was identified, water had yet to be provided to at least 35 of the rabbits. This included two mother rabbits with litters of 4 and 5 young.

Inability to access water is a repeat noncompliant item cited on reports dated 4/29/2015 and 4/10/2015.

### 3.56(a)(1) REPEAT

#### **SANITATION.**

\*\*Three enclosures (with at least 10 rabbits affected) had an excessive amount of dirt, urine, feces, hair and other organic material build up on the wire flooring.

Sanitation issues can damage the hair coat and skin and make the animals susceptible to environmental exposure. Poor sanitation also exposes these animals to bacterial growth that can be hazardous and lower the immune system of these animals. A compromised immune system does not allow these animals to build up the necessary

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antibodies to fight disease and infection. The licensee's dog was also observed urinating on a post in the rabbit housing area.

Licensee must ensure that there are adequate measures in place to remove all dust, dirt, urine, feces and all other organic material from all surfaces of the facility.

This is a repeat noncompliant item cited previously on reports dated 11/20/2014, 1/14/2015, 4/1/2015, and 4/29/2015.

### 3.56(b)

#### **SANITATION.**

\*\*At present there is no evidence that primary enclosures are appropriately cleaned and sanitized on a regular schedule.

This may be done by washing them with hot water and soap or detergent, by washing all soiled surfaces with a detergent solutions followed by a safe and effective disinfectant, or by cleaning all soiled surfaces with live steam or flame. The licensee must employ one of these effective methods to clean and sanitize all surfaces at least once every 30 days. Enclosures that are not regularly cleaned and sanitized may harbor micro-organisms that can cause illness in the rabbits.

Correct by 12/9/2015.

### 3.56(c)

#### **REPEAT**

#### **SANITATION.**

\*\*This facility has clutter within and around the facility perimeter. The materials consist of unused wire cages, plastic materials, wood, trash, and wire mesh. There is no organization of these materials and the majority is being kept in unsanitary conditions and potentially contributing to disease hazards within the facility. Excessive clutter of materials creates an ideal breeding ground for mammalian and insect pests and creates numerous hiding areas that may conceal predators.

\*\*There was also a moderate to large amount of dirt and evidence of urine splatter on the plastic sheeting surrounding the outdoor rabbit enclosure area.

The licensee must ensure that that all unwanted items are properly discarded and removed from the property, and

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that premises shall be kept clean in order to minimize odor and pests. Additionally, useful items must be properly cleaned, organized and stored so that all areas of the premise, including the quarantine and storage areas are kept clean, in good repair and free of the accumulation of materials in order to facilitate proper husbandry practices.

This is a repeat noncompliant item cited previously on inspection reports dated 4/1/2015 and 4/29/2015.

### 3.61(a)(4) REPEAT

#### PRIMARY ENCLOSURES USED TO TRANSPORT LIVE RABBITS.

\*\*This facility is still using blue Rubbermaid-type totes with removable tops on a regular basis to transport rabbits to and from parties. The ventilation openings for the rabbits while in these totes are small holes that have been placed in the top of the tote lids. Inadequate ventilation can restrict necessary airflow to the animals and result in overheating or otherwise compromise health during transportation. Although staff indicated they remove the lids during transport, this is not appropriately containing the rabbits. In addition, several totes are cracked and do not have the structural strength necessary to withstand the rigors of travel.

All licensees are required to ensure that transport enclosures for rabbits have ventilation openings located on two opposite walls of the primary enclosure and that the ventilation openings on each wall are at least 16 percent of the total surface area. Alternately, transport enclosures for rabbits may have ventilation openings located on all four walls of the primary enclosure provided that those openings are at least 8 percent of the total surface area of each wall.

As they are currently constructed the Rubbermaid-type totes do not provide adequate ventilation or structural strength as required. Correct by ensuring that all transport enclosure used in the future are constructed in a manner that adequate ventilation is provided to all animals and that all other requirements for enclosure construction are met.

This is a repeat noncompliant item cited previously on reports dated 4/1/2015 and 4/29/2015.

The inspection was conducted on 11/30/2015 with the Licensee, Randy Vanadisson (IES), Dr. Carolyn McKinnie (SACS) and Dr. Christina Der (VMO). The exit briefing was conducted on 12/2/2015 with Licensee, Dr. Carolyn McKinnie (SACS) and Dr. Christina Der (VMO).

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### Additional Inspectors

Mckinnie Carolyn, Supervisory Animal Care Specialist

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## Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
325396	91-C-0138	001	Kirsty Lee, L L C	30-NOV-15

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000103	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	EUROPEAN RABBIT
<b>000103</b>	<b>Total</b>	