



Inspection Report

Blue Ridge Kennel
P.O. Box 1207
Wetumpka, AL 36092

Customer ID: **928**
Certificate: **64-R-0102**
Site: 001
BLUE RIDGE KENNEL

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION
Date: 21-FEB-2024

2.31(c)(3)

Repeat

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).

The IACUC met on Oct. 25-26, 2023 for an IACUC meeting and to complete the semi-annual facility inspection and program review. A copy of the Meeting Minutes was reviewed. Documents available for review regarding the semi-annual facility inspection and program review consisted only of a page listing findings from the semi-annual inspections (a chart with columns for a two to three word heading for the deficiency identified, a correction plan with date and a minor/significant designation). No formal evaluation report of the semi-annual facility inspection and program review was available for review. The findings 'chart' did not contain a description of the nature and extent of the research facility's adherence to the Animal Welfare Act (AWA), did not specifically state the departures/deficiency in some cases (for example one deficiency was identified simply as 'euthanasia protocol' without stating what the deficiency actually was related to the protocol), did not state a reason for each of the departures/deficiencies, did not indicate if there were any minority opinions that must be included and did not contain a signature of the majority of the IACUC members. The evaluation report of the semi-annual facility inspection and program review provides important information to the Institutional Official to allow the IO to ensure the facility and IACUC have the means to adhere to the AWA Regulations and Standards. It also allows the IO to respond to USDA if there is any failure by the facility to adhere to the plan and schedule for correction for significant deficiencies as the IO is required to do within 15 days of any significant deficiency remaining uncorrected.

The IACUC shall prepare reports of its semi-annual evaluations conducted (program of humane care and use review and facility inspection) and submit them to the IO. The report shall be reviewed and signed by a majority of the IACUC members, contain any minority views, contain a description of the nature and extent of the facility's adherence to and specifically identify any departures from the provisions of title 9, chapter I subchapter A Animal Welfare. For departures the report must identify the departure, state a reason for the departure, distinguish significant from minor deficiencies and contain a specific plan and schedule with dates for correcting each deficiency. Correct by preparing a complete semi-annual review evaluation report.

3.1(c)(1)(ii)

Housing facilities, general.

One of the exercise yards for the dogs in current use contains a dome shaped dog shelter structure. On both sides of the entrance to the structure there are two large screws inserted into the wall of the structure within 4-8 inches of the ground and with the sharp pointed end of the screws pointing into the opening. The dogs may injure themselves if they brush up

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against the sharp points as they enter/exit the shelter structure.

Any surfaces that come into contact with dogs must be free of jagged edges or sharp points that may injure the animals. Corrected temporarily during the inspection by placing a red tag on the exercise yard signaling that the yard is no longer to be used. Correct by removing or repairing the shelter structure by March 7, 2024.

3.6(a)(1)

Primary enclosures.

Several of the 'doggie doors' that provide a wind and rain break between the indoor and outdoor portions of the sheltered housing enclosures for the dogs are not structurally sound and are in need of repair.

*At least three of the see-through plastic doors are missing one of two screws holding up the doggie door causing the doggie doors to twist and hang in an abnormal position. The animals may be injured by doors that are not structurally sound and a portion of the opening is not covered potentially allowing wind and rain to enter the sheltered part of the enclosure.

*At least three of the see-through plastic doors have been chewed by the dogs such that the bottom half of the plastic covering the opening is no longer present and a frayed chewed edge remains. The dogs may be injured when ingesting plastic, the chewed/frayed edges can no longer be adequately cleaned and sanitized and the portion of the opening that is not covered potentially allows wind and rain to enter the sheltered part of the enclosure.

The 'doggie doors' need to be repaired or replaced so that the enclosures are structurally sound and kept in good repair. Correct by March 21, 2024.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with the Institutional Official and other facility representatives.

Additional Inspectors:

SUSANNE BRUNKHORST, VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER

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Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
928	64-R-0102	001	BLUE RIDGE KENNEL	21-FEB-2024

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000089	<i>Canis familiaris</i>	DOG ADULT
000089	Total	