



Inspection Report

Triple F Farms Inc
1173 Bucks Creek Road
Gillett, PA 16925

Customer ID: **17976**
Certificate: **23-A-0312**
Site: 001
TRIPLE F FARMS INC

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION
Date: 28-OCT-2015

2.40(b)(2)

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

Section 2.40(b)(2) Veterinary care: The following animals at location 2 require veterinary care.

1) A young adult sable female ferret #5718 in enclosure 178 in room 13 has a large dark red to brown scab on its left ear near the ear canal. The pinna of both of ears are folded/thickened with a fleshy cauliflower-type appearance. The scab is on the central portion of this fleshy area that nearly obscures the ear canal and made visualization of the canal difficult while the ferret was awake. This ferret had no treatment records for the ears. Facility personnel informed the APHIS officials that the cauliflower appearance to the ears was the result of the other ferrets chewing and/or sucking on the ears as weanlings. The facility personnel also informed the APHIS officials that the ears are treated at the time of the initial injury, but ferret #5718 was not currently receiving treatment and no one was aware that this animal had scabs present. Scabs such as this may result from trauma by cage mates or be self-induced from the animal scratching at its ear as can occur with discomfort/pain from excessive ear wax and/or infection.

2) Three male ferrets (all in room 11) were identified during inspection with varying degrees of hair loss on the tail.

- A sable male with right ear tag # 4039 in enclosure #3 had no hair on the last 2/3 of his tail. The underlying skin was pink but otherwise appeared normal. This animal also had several toenails that were slightly long and one nail present on the 3rd digit of the right hind foot that was excessively long (nearly 2 cm long).

- A sable male with no ear tag (cage card ID # H1797) in enclosure #161 and sable male with no ear tag (cage card ID# P4579) in enclosure # 164 both had hair loss on the tail. Both animals had hair that was noticeably thinning along the last third of the tail and became progressively worst towards the tip which was nearly bare. The underlying skin appeared normal.

There was no documentation that the facility had identified the hair loss on these animals. When pointed out to the facility president he stated that they do occasionally observe a similar pattern of hair loss, but that they don't typically document this finding. Hair loss can occur for many reasons in ferrets and failure to properly identify the condition, have animals examined, and properly monitor this condition may result in misdiagnosis and/or worsening of the condition. Excessively long toenails are at a higher risk of being broken or caught on enclosures and therefore can cause unnecessary discomfort to animals.

Prepared By: MARY GEIB, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:
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Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER 1021

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Correct by having the four animals listed above examined by the attending veterinarian to accurately diagnose the condition and provide an appropriate monitoring and treatment plan. Additionally, ensure that appropriate methods to properly identify and treat (including methods for routine grooming such as nail trims) are in place for all other animals from this point forward.

To be completed by: November 2, 2015

The inspection was conducted on October 27, 2015. The exit interview was conducted on October 28, 2013 with the facility president; Dana Miller, SACS; and Mary Geib, VMO.

Additional Inspectors

Miller Dana, Supervisory Animal Care Specialist

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Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
17976	23-A-0312	001	TRIPLE F FARMS INC	28-OCT-15

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
003356	<i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>	HAZEL DORMOUSE
003356	Total	