



Inspection Report

FELD ENTERTAINMENT INC

Customer ID: 7250

Certificate: 52-C-0137

Site: RED

RED UNIT VARIOUS TRAVELLING LOCATIONS

RINGLING BROS/BARNUM & BAILEY

8607 WESTWOOD CENTER DRIVE

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: Jun-10-2011

VIENNA, VA 22182

2.40 (b) (2) REPEAT

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

<<Each exhibitor shall establish and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care that include: The use of appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries>>

During review of the medical records for Sarah, a 54 year-old Asian elephant, the following notation was made by the Senior Veterinarian on 4/12/11: "History of purulent discharge from the vulva when urinating reported by Elephant Trainer. Purulent discharge noted by me last week and again during walk to venue last night." He notes that an ultrasonographic exam was performed and the conclusion was "possible necrotic leiomyomas, but more consistent with open pyometra." The animal was started on prophylactic treatment for another purpose on 4/12/11 and the written plan was to review blood work (Complete Blood Count (CBC) and Chemistry panel) and reevaluate after a few months dependent upon whether the discharge resolved.

A record of a phone call with the Senior Veterinarian on 6/5/11 noted that the purulent discharge did not resolve with the antibiotic treatment. His directions were "resume twice a day rinse of vulva area to remove material being discharged intermittently. Monitor and consider using endoscope to evaluate source of discharge, although it appears to be from leiomyomas becoming necrotic and causing the discharge." Blood work was performed on 4/14/11 and 5/11/11 which showed a significantly elevated White Blood Count (WBC) (WBC >31,000 and WBC = 30,900, respectively) when compared with the previous blood work which had been performed on 10/12/10 (WBC = 13,300) and on 12/22/09 (WBC = 10,800). Neither a review nor comments by facility veterinarians regarding Sarah's blood work results were found in the medical records.

Sarah's condition was discussed with the Associate Veterinarian on site during this inspection. She stated that she didn't believe the discharge was purulent and that animal's condition was not serious. She stated that the discharge is due to a chronic problem, a rectal fistula communicating with the vestibular area of the reproductive tract, which had been diagnosed prior to her employment (~ 6 years) with the licensee. No record or mention of this diagnosis was seen by APHIS officials during the review of records. She stated that the handlers were managing this condition by periodic flushing. A handler involved in the care of this animal was asked to explain the procedure and how often it was being performed. As he described it, this involved flushing the rectum as needed with water which he stated was sometimes daily but could

Prepared By:

TRACY A THOMPSON, D.V.M. USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER Inspector 5044

Jun-10-2011

Received By:

(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)

Date:

Title:

Jun-10-2011



Inspection Report

be weekly or even monthly depending on whether discharge was noted or not. A conference call was established during the inspection with the Senior Veterinarian to discuss the discrepancies between his records and how this animal was being treated. When asked what he believed was the cause of the discharge, he stated that it was possibly due to necrotic leiomyomas and that he had advised the handlers to increase the frequency of flushing to twice a day. The handler's description of the flushing procedure was then described to the Senior Veterinarian. The Senior Veterinarian stated that Sarah had an old vestibulo-rectal fistula that changes in size. This had not been noted as a factor in this animal's current condition in any of his records.

Programs of adequate veterinary care shall include the use of appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries. Instructions by the Senior Veterinarian on 6/5/11 to rinse the vulvar area twice a day are not being followed by the handlers. There is a discrepancy between the Senior Veterinarian's medical notes and observations and what was stated by the Associate Veterinarian regarding the character of the discharge and the seriousness of the animal's condition. There has been no documented review of the results of the blood work by facility veterinarians and no concern expressed until APHIS officials called attention to the significant elevation of the WBC in April and May from the earlier results. The Senior Veterinarian's plans from 4/12/11 and 6/5/11 that further diagnostics should be performed if the discharge did not resolve have not been followed at the time of this inspection. No date has been set for repeat of blood work nor for an endoscopic exam. APHIS officials again expressed concern about the elevated WBC and when asked how soon repeat blood work could be performed, the Associate Veterinarian stated it would be some time this month.

The licensee shall conduct the tests necessary to diagnose health problems and develop methods to prevent, control, and treat them.

The licensee shall maintain thorough and complete documentation regarding diagnostics, treatment plans and treatments for the regulated species.

This is a repeat noncompliance previously cited during the inspection performed on the Blue Unit on 11/18/10.

3.137 (a) (2) REPEAT PRIMARY ENCLOSURES USED TO TRANSPORT LIVE ANIMALS.

<<Primary enclosures, such as compartments, transport cages, cartons, or crates, used to transport live animals shall be constructed in such a manner that (2) the interior of the enclosure shall be free from any protrusions that could be injurious to the live animals contained therein;>>

Two trailers and one of the two train compartments used as primary enclosures to transport a total of 8 Asian elephants were found to have protrusions that could be injurious to the live animals contained therein.

The first trailer inspected had a wire mesh panel with broken wires protruding into the compartment which is accessible to the animals and poses a risk of injury to these animals.

The second trailer had broken metal trim on the interior surface of the side door used for loading and

Prepared By:

TRACY A THOMPSON, D.V.M. USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER Inspector 5044

Jun-10-2011

Received By:

(b)(6),(b)(7)(c)

Date:

Title:

Jun-10-2011



Inspection Report

unloading animals that was protruding into the compartment which is accessible to the animals and poses a risk of injury to these animals.

The train compartment (63001) had a ceiling panel that was missing 3 bolts which allowed the sharp metal edge to protrude into the compartment which is accessible to the animals and poses a risk of injury to these animals.

This is a repeat noncompliance previously cited during the inspection performed on the Blue Unit on 11/18/10.

The inspection was conducted by Dr Tracy Thompson, AC VMO and Dr Pamela Smith AC VMO and Cindy Rhodes, ACI at the World Arena and the Fort Carson Army Base train yard in Colorado Springs, CO

The inspection was conducted with the General Manager, Animal Department Supervisor, Operations Manager, Senior Handler, Associate Veterinarian, Veterinary Technician, Assistant General Manager, and an Assistant Handler.

The exit briefing was conducted with the General Manager, Operations Manager, and the Veterinary Technician on site.

8 Asian Elephants inspected: Siam2 (33 yrs), Banko (35 yrs), Baby (50 yrs), Assan (54 yrs), Sarah (54 yrs), Asia (43 yrs), Luna (27 yrs), Tonka (27 yrs).

Prepared By:

TRACY A THOMPSON, D.V.M. USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER Inspector 5044

Jun-10-2011

Received By:

(b)(6),(b)(7)(c)

Date:

Title:

Jun-10-2011