



Animal Care Violations By USDA-licensed Small Animal Breeders in Pennsylvania (By License # and County)

A Lady Freethinker investigation covering breeders with identified issues in 2020 and a summary of their continued noncompliance through September 2021.

LANCASTER COUNTY (18 breeders or 41% of the total)

1. **23-A-0661:** Lack of pest control with numerous rodent droppings around enclosures. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** insufficient space in some enclosures.
2. **23-A-0306:** crowded pens for weanlings. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** missing records.
3. **23-A-0635:** Multiple veterinary issues, including a lethargic newborn housed with too many other adult guinea pigs, guinea pigs with untreated hair loss and skin abnormalities, at least 8 dead guinea pigs including newborns in enclosures, incomplete records, filthy enclosures that hadn't been sanitized in the last 5 months. **Second inspection:** buildup of bedding debris along water system and cobwebs on walls, windows, and the ceiling. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** improper storage, missing records.
4. **23-A-0605:** Poor lighting; inspectors needed to use a flashlight to observe the guinea pigs.
5. **23-A-0669:** Buildup of grime. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** buildup of cobwebs, dust and debris.
6. **Not licensed at time of LFT investigation (now 23-A-0718):** improper storage, temperature inside of 56 degrees, excess fecal matter in enclosures, facility rep "notsure" when the enclosures had last been cleaned. **No inspections in 2021 as of end of September.**
7. **Not licensed at time of LFT investigation (now 23-A-0719):** No veterinary care program developed, improper storage of feed and hay, internal temperature of room was 50 degrees.
8. **23-A-0627:** Debris on floor, dirty empty cages.
9. **23-A-0559:** Incomplete records.
10. **Not licensed at time of LFT investigation (now 23-A-0725):** improper food storage, buildup of dirt/debris/clutter, rodent droppings and live mouse spotted on beam.
11. **23-A-0654:** Inadequate cleaning with strong ammonia smell (enclosures had been last cleaned eight days ago), buildup of grime, feces, cobwebs, dirt, and dust on floor and windows. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** structural issues.
12. **23-A-0650:** Almost a quarter of his enclosures were overcrowded, including not enough space for nursing females and their litters. **Second inspection:** Wood of enclosures not properly sealed. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** missing records, surfaces not sealed, excess of soiled bedding.
13. **23-A-0641:** Exposed wire and holes in enclosures, rusted self-feeders with jagged ends, housing chemicals and veterinary products on top of animal enclosures that could harm or kill guinea pigs if spilled (sulfamethoxazole tablets and lime sulfur). **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** improper storage, sanitation issues, pests, buildup of debris.
14. **23-A-0562:** overcrowded enclosures with rusty back walls

15. **Not licensed at time of LFT investigation (now 23-A-0727):** improper food storage, stagnant water on site. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** untreated medical issues (guinea pigs with masses).
16. **23-A-0447:** No record of the number of guinea pigs on hand. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** buildup on enclosures.
17. **23-A-0621:** Buildup of debris, cobwebs, droppings and hay, lack of pest control. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** rodent and fly infestations, buildup of loose hay/cobwebs/dust/dirt/debris.
18. **23-A-0680:** Soiled bedding under fresh hay. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** incomplete records, dry and wet hay accumulated on floor.

CLINTON COUNTY (11 breeders or 25% of the total)

1. **23-A-0656:** Multiple veterinary issues, including a guinea pig with a swollen foot observed licking and chewing on the leg, a guinea pig with hair loss covering 70% of the body, and guinea pigs observed with wet and matted fur. Temperature inside was 42 degrees. Filthy enclosures, feeders with jagged and rusty edges, filthy enclosures and enclosures where the floor was falling out of the cages, more than 50% of water bottle coated in dense green matter, all enclosures had spiderwebs in them. **2nd inspection:** Temperature at 55 degrees on three floors, feeders with rusty and jagged edges, pens with mesh separating from the frames, water bottles with green buildup, half of enclosures had excess fecal matter, spiderwebs adhered to mesh of all cages. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** feeders with little to no food, cobwebs around enclosures, filthy water containers.
2. **23-A-0691:** Seven guinea pigs needing medical treatment, including lethargic babies housed with too many adults, guinea pigs with skin abnormalities, five guinea pigs with untreated swellings/masses under their chins. Improper food storage, all feeders contained fecal matter and a quarter of enclosures had accumulated filth. **Second inspection:** Eight guinea pigs needed veterinary treatment, including swellings Fisher self-treated with antibiotics. Dead adult guinea pig found in enclosure. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** Poor ventilation.
3. **23-A-0513:** veterinary issue with guinea pigs who had eye abnormality and hair loss, dead and malnourished guinea pig corpse in enclosure, loose guinea pigs, exposed wires in enclosures, filthy feeders and bedding and cobwebs. **Second Inspection:** Still in process of making necessary repairs. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** guinea pigs with untreated medical issues (including a nonresponsive cavy and eye infections), buildup of fecal matter/debris/spiderwebs, and room temperature of 58.5 degrees.
4. **23-A-0653:** guinea pigs with untreated masses, incomplete records, filthy enclosures. **2nd inspection:** fecal matter in feeders, strong ammonia smell, filthy enclosures. **3rd inspection:** Multiple guinea pigs with health problems, including two with respiratory problems, one with signs of lameness, and another with swollen feet. Majority of pens with excess fecal matter, dirt, debris and no clean bedding available, incomplete records; number of guinea pigs had increased from 203 guinea pigs to 356 guinea pigs) **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** room temperatures of 87 degrees, fly infestation.

5. **23-A-0552:** No record of newborn guinea pigs, sanitizing only 1 time per month, temperatures indoors ranged from 54 to 57 degrees. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** six guinea pigs with untreated masses, filthy enclosures, buildup of waste around water spigots, room temperatures ranging from 51.8 degrees to 55.7 degrees Fahrenheit, missing records.
6. **23-A-0620:** Two dead baby guinea pigs found in an enclosure, another guinea pig had an untreated swollen eye and hair loss, no records of the animal births/deaths for the previous six months, filthy enclosures and spiderwebs above enclosures. **No inspections in 2021 as of end of September.**
7. **23-A-0662:** holes in enclosure with 19 baby guinea pigs, strong ammonia smell. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** program of vet care doesn't accurately reflect euthanasia methods being used.
8. **23-A-0583:** Vet care ordered for a baby guinea pig found with an untreated swollen and crusty eye, improper storage of feed, filthy feeders. **Second inspection:** Two guinea pigs with health problems, including an adult and weanling with untreated hair loss, exposed wire tips, excess buildup of fecal matter in enclosures and near water. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** broken pane of glass in enclosure area, untreated medical conditions (discharge from eyes crusted shut), unclean water system, chewed enclosures, exposed wire.
9. **23-A-0480:** Multiple guinea pigs with health issues, including lethargic newborns housed with too many adults, young guinea pigs with eye abnormalities, and a dead newborn "embedded" in the bedding of an enclosure. Using blunt force trauma to euthanize animals in violation of the Animal Welfare Act (per the inspector). Incomplete records, loose guinea pigs, 90% of feeders contain fecal material and 90% of enclosures include excess accumulations of fecal matter, filthy water spigots, thick layers of dirt and grime. **Second inspection:** Adult guinea pig with severely swollen feet that had been observed but not treated; only 5 of 64 cages had properly sealed wood. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** untreated medical issues (a guinea pig with swollen feet)
10. **23-A-0596:** loose guinea pigs and rabbits, feed and bedding not properly stored, internal temperature of building 51 degrees, enclosures not sanitized frequently enough with filthy feeders, water spigots, and bedding and spiderwebs overhanging enclosures. **2nd failed inspection:** Temperature was 56 degrees, half of feeders had fecal matter, 75% of enclosures had large amounts of soiled bedding. **3rd inspection:** one guinea pig loose, large amounts of discarded bedding/hay/debris on floor. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** untreated medical issue (lethargic guinea pig), loose pigs, sanitation issues, exposed wire, and a decomposing guinea pig infested with maggots in an enclosure.
11. **23-A-0632:** improper storage and cleaning, half of enclosures had excess buildup of fecal matter.

CHESTER COUNTY (4 breeders or 9% of the total)

1. **23-A-0594:** Enclosures had areas with bare/unsealed wood. **Second inspection:** Incomplete records (no inventory of guinea pigs since 6 months prior to the inspection); at least six enclosures had large, chewed holes near water spigots that were big enough to allow weanlings and newborns to escape and be injured, buildup of dirt and debris. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** missing records, holes in enclosures, buildup of dirt and debris.
2. **23-A-0672:** Nursing mama guinea pig with untreated mass under chin, improper storage of food and bedding. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** wet bedding in enclosures and sanitation issues.

3. **23-A-0708:** one enclosure had 46 weanling pigs with an excess of fecal matter. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** improper storage
4. **23-A-0474:** Insufficient space in 13 enclosures housing weanlings. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** buildup of filth around water pipes and on sides of enclosures

UNION COUNTY (3 breeders or 7% of the total)

1. **23-A-0309:** improper food storage, fecal pellets mixed with food for 135 weanling pigs, 2" layer of wet and fecal saturated bedding under clean layer in some pens. **Second inspection:** majority of enclosures have large amounts of feces, with shavings used as bedding "barely visible."
2. **Not licensed at time of LFT investigation (still no license):** no written program of veterinary care on file. Two sick guinea pigs, including a female dragging both legs with her ribs showing (a condition observed but not treated) and a guinea pig with an untreated eye problem.
3. **23-A-0701:** Two guinea pigs with health problems and three adults with untreated head tilts; buildup of bedding and debris around water spigots. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** untreated medical issues (a guinea pig with a mass), structural issues (unsealed wood and exposed insulation), fly infestation, no nest box available for a rabbit with newborn kits.

***23-A-0705:** This cavy breeder popped up in the 2020 investigation FOI when no one was home when an inspector arrived, but as no issues of noncompliance were noted in 2020, we did not include him in our 2020 report. Records for 2021 show, however, that he was not documenting deaths, filthy enclosures, and a fly infestation.

CENTRE COUNTY (3 breeders or 7% of the total)

1. **23-A-0644:** 25% of enclosures have walls with a buildup of grime, 75% of enclosures have a buildup of bedding and feces between wires and separation columns of enclosures. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** buildup of spiderwebs and debris.
2. **23-A-0710:** Using blunt force trauma to euthanize animals, in violation of the Animal Welfare Act. Incomplete records, half of rabbit enclosures with wire flooring have accumulated feces, buildup of dirt/grime/debris behind food storage and enclosures. **No inspections in 2021 as of end of September.**
3. **23-A-0674:** A lethargic newborn without veterinary treatment was housed with 13 other guinea pigs. **No inspections in 2021 as of end of September.**

YORK COUNTY (2 breeders or 5% of the total)

1. **23-A-0675:** incomplete records, loose guinea pigs, buildup of filth and cobwebs. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** improper storage
2. **23-A-0577:** Three loose guinea pigs, buildups of dust/debris/droppings/clutter. **Second inspection:** two loose guinea pigs, buildup of dust/dirt/debris/feces/clutter and cobwebs. **Third inspection:** Records of animal births/deaths not available except for September and October. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** multiple untreated medical issues (guinea pigs with masses and head tilts), a filthy waste room with a wheel barrow filled with dirty bedding/sawdust/dead guinea pigs.

JUNIATA COUNTY (1 breeder or 2% of the total)

- **23-A-0699:** No records of guinea pigs on hand, majority of enclosures had open water bowls contaminated with fecal matter. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** open water bowls with filth, structural issues.

LYCOMING COUNTY (1 breeder or 2% of the total)

- **23-A-0660:** Guinea pig with untreated mass under her chin, incomplete records, exposed wires at guinea pig eye level on feeders, 75% of feeders had excess fecal matter, with food “deteriorated to a ground up powder” so that little to no food water available, filthy water bottles for weanlings. **Noncompliance issues in 2021 included:** untreated medical issues (guinea pigs with masses), missing records, structural issues, buildup of debris and spiderwebs, exposure to sharp surfaces in feeders, exposure to sharp wires and gaps in enclosures.

PERRY COUNTY (1 breeder or 2% of the total)

- **23-A-0508:** buildup of dust/dirt/cobwebs on walls/ceilings/vents housing hamsters, rodent droppings on floor

USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Records:

Inspection reports are publicly viewable here:

<https://aphis-efile.force.com/PublicSearchTool/s/inspection-reports>

