

IDAHO STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE – ANIMAL INDUSTRIES CASE INVESTIGATION FORM

<u>NAME/ADDRESS OF INDIVIDUAL/COMPANY ALLEGED TO BE CAUSE OF COMPLAINT:</u> Babby Farms 5900 El Paso Rd Caldwell, ID 83607		<u>DATE AND TIME RECEIVED:</u> 7/20/15 11:59 am	<u>COMPLAINT NUMBER:</u> AC-16-0009
<u>COUNTY:</u> Gem	<u>TYPE OF COMPLAINT:</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ANIMAL CARE <input type="checkbox"/> ENVIRONMENTAL <input type="checkbox"/> MISCELLANEOUS <input type="checkbox"/> ODOR <input type="checkbox"/> DEAD ANIMAL	<u>COMPLAINT DETAIL:</u> <u>DATE INCIDENT OCCURRED:</u> 7/17/15 <u>TIME INCIDENT OCCURRED:</u> 12:07 <u>DURATION OF INCIDENT:</u> 1 day	
<u>NAME/ADDRESS/PHONE # OF COMPLAINANT:</u> Sam Paden samypaden@hotmail.com		<u>ASSIGNED TO:</u> Debra Lawrence DVM	<u>DATE:</u> 8/4/15

<u>NATURE OF COMPLAINT:</u> This message was sent from the IDFG website. Sam Paden writes: I recently was brought to Babby Farms in Caldwell (www.babbyfarms.net). I saw on their website that they claim to be ISDA certified and Idaho Fish and Games (IDFG) certified. Have you had someone inspect this place recently?! I had no idea what I was in for. I was appalled by the state of the animals (particularly the exotic animals). The domestic animals seemed to be relatively well cared for, however many of the exotics were in cramped cages, algae covered water bowls, and the nursery was a monstrosity. People poking and prodding baby animals for their own pleasure without a thought to what would be appropriate for the animals (the baby Capuchin was in a particularly monstrous state, placed in a cage by itself rocking itself on the floor, wrapping itself with a blanket for comfort). In the petting area with the Kangaroos and Tortoise I saw children grabbing kangaroo tails, smacking the tortoise, and generally disturbing any semblance of space for these animals. The Lemurs, Caracal, Porcupines, Bobcats and Servals were in small cages right out in the open sun. Gods above, it was just horrific. I would NEVER have gone to this place knowing this was what was in store for me. I do not doubt that there are well meaning people there, but with an owner living in Vegas and family members running the place (with little to no experience/training in zoology or animal care) one can see there is a serious breakdown in proper care. PLEASE REVIEW this place, it is a shame and embarrassment to this state and business community. I look forward to hearing from you. Regards, Samuel Paden Request Received: 07-17-2015 12:07:06	<u>DOES COMPLAINANT EXPECT ADDITIONAL DEPARTMENT CONTACT?:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
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<u>ILLNESS INVOLVED?:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<u>HEALTH PROFESSIONAL INVOLVED?:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <u>NAME/ADDRESS/PHONE:</u>	<u>HOSPITALIZATION REQUIRED?:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <u>NAME/ADDRESS/PHONE:</u>	
<u>SPECIES:</u> Mixed	<u>NUMBER AFFECTED:</u> 0	<u>FACILITY TYPE:</u> Menagerie	<u>FACILITY CONDITION:</u> Average
<u>FACILITY ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITION:</u> Good	<u>GENERAL CONDITION OF ANIMALS:</u> Good	<u>AVERAGE BODY CONDITION SCORE OF ALL ANIMALS:</u> na	<u>BODY CONDITION SCORE RANGE OF ANIMALS:</u> na
<u>ALLEGED ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE?:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		<u>NAME OF WATERWAY AFFECTED:</u>	<u>EVIDENCE/SAMPLE OBTAINED?:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<u>DISPOSITION:</u> <u>INITIAL INVESTIGATION COMPLETE:</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <u>CLOSED WITHOUT FURTHER INVESTIGATION BY ISDA:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <u>REFERRED TO:</u>		<u>FOLLOW-UP NEEDED BY ISDA:</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <u>FOLLOW-UP TIMEFRAME:</u> 60 days	

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REMARKS: On 8/4/15, I accompanied Dr. Mark Drew of the Idaho Department of Fish & Game (IDFG) to Babby Farms. Our visit was a joint response to a complaint received by IDFG. In addition to general animal welfare, the Idaho State Department of Agriculture Division of Animal Industries administrators IDAPA 02.04.27 Rules Governing Deleterious Exotic Animals. My findings are as follows. References to slide numbers are from the Power Point document "Babby Farms AC-16-0009 IDFG.pptx".

1. All Deleterious Exotic Animals on the premises, with the exception of two 2015 Sika deer fawns are listed on the most recent inventory received from Babby Farms.
2. Enclosure size was adequate with the exception of the three baby lemurs and the bush babies housed in the small animal room (Slides 21-23).
3. Babby Farms does not hold propagation permits for any of their Deleterious Exotic Animals. The following specimens are intact and must be immediately separated from intact specimens of the opposite sex (if applicable) and then sterilized before being re-introduced: 1- male ring-tailed lemur, 1- male genet, 1- female genet, 1- male kinkajou, 1- female bush baby, 1- male bush baby, 1- female caracal, 2- male red-fronted brown lemurs, 1- male paca, 1- male Patagonian cavy. The male Sika deer must be separated from the females until vasectomies can be properly performed.
4. Security should be improved. Even though historically there have been no escapes at Babby Farms, ingress (of people or predators) is possible. Outdoor enclosures should all have a double-door entry or a method of closing the animals off into another partition of the enclosure before opening the main entry. Some of the outdoor enclosures do not have buried wire or large river rocks in place to prevent digging in (or out). (Slides 2, 7, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19) Corral fences were in good repair with the exception of the deer enclosure, which had some torn wire (Slide 25)
5. Housekeeping in general needs some improvement. (Slide 30) Exhibits should be cleared of feces/urine and food waste at least daily to improve esthetic appearance and discourage flies. A conscious effort to eliminate fly attractants is in order. Water receptacles should be scrubbed clean and filled with clean water as often as necessary to provide an acceptable appearance for exhibit. Situating water receptacles off of the ground would be an improvement. Animal carcasses provided to the carnivores should be removed at the beginning of each day prior to exhibition time. (Slides 8, 11, 12, 38)
6. Water features should be maintained to prevent buildup of feces, dirt and algae. (Slides 24, 25, 27, 33)
7. Extraneous items in animal enclosures should be removed if they are not used. A gate laying on the ground in a cattle pen and a sunken feed tub in the bison corral present injury hazards. (Slides 30, 34, 35) Plastic pet carriers left in enclosures provide harborage for flies and are not clean. (Slide 30)
8. Weed control was found to be inadequate. Puncture vines (*Tribulus terrestris*) were prevalent throughout the property. Some were found within exhibits. These noxious weeds present an injury hazard to animals and visitors in addition to the potential for spread (Idaho Statute Title 22, Chapter 24 Noxious Weeds). Other weeds were in abundance as well- they provide pest harborage and contribute to an overall appearance of neglect.
9. The livestock pens were in good repair. Some of the pens had excess accumulation of manure in addition to weeds. (Slides 36, 37)
10. The livestock were in good condition with the following exceptions: The yak needed to have his feet trimmed (Slide 32) The two goats and one of the sheep were not suitable for display due to arthritis and dropped fetlocks (Slide 39) However, the yak, goats and sheep were all in good body condition.

In conclusion, I found the animals to be in good condition and well-adjusted. They were provided with furnishings to entertain themselves and all had adequate shelter. All the animals had water available and appeared to be well nourished. The capuchin mentioned in the complaint behaved like a normal, human-raised juvenile monkey when I observed it. She is possessive of her favorite blanket and she let me know it. She spends non-exhibit hours and nights in the house with people. Babby Farms has a Psychological Well-Being Plan for Primates, dated July 1, 2015, in place.

HOURS	MILES:	FOLLOW-UP CALLS MADE?:	COMPLETED BY:	DATE:
4	70	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Debra M. Lawrence, DVM	8/4/15