



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: 31-AUG-2021

2.31(c)(3) Repeat
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).

The Institutional Officer is still creating the reports for the IACUC and the report to himself was lacking any minority views or a statement saying that there were none to report. The IACUC remains responsible for the evaluations and reports as required by the Act and regulations. The reports shall be reviewed and signed by a majority of the IACUC members and must include any minority views. The reports must contain a description of the nature and extent of the research facility's adherence to this subchapter, must identify Specifically any departures from the provisions of title 9, chapter I, subchapter A – Animal Welfare, and must state the reasons for each departure. The reports must distinguish significant deficiencies from minor deficiencies. A significant deficiency is one which, with reference to Subchapter A, and, in the judgement of the IACUC and the Institutional Official, is or may be a threat to the health or safety of the animals. Failure to continuously provide complete and thorough semiannual reports to the Institutional Officer hinders the facility's ability to adequately address animal welfare concerns appropriately.

2.32(a) Repeat
Personnel qualifications.

Conversations with the Principal Investigator and IACUC members, and review of IACUC/facility records and the October 2020 inspection report indicates that the staff/member's lack knowledge about the Animal Welfare Act and protocol review

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process. Adequate knowledge is necessary to ensure that the facility remains compliant with the Animal Welfare Act Regulations and Standards and to ensure the health and well-being of the animals. The facility must ensure that the veterinarians, principal investigator and facility staff are provided training and instruction on their duties under the Animal Welfare Act.

2.33(a)(1)

Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care.

During the April inspection, conversations with the attending veterinarian led to scheduling a visit to reassess the thyroid of several dogs with weight issues. The AV stated he would conduct examinations soon after the inspection. The AV had not visited the facility since the previous inspection to reassess or examine any animals of concern. To get clarification on the animals health at the facility because the Program of Veterinary Care nor medical records showed any evidence or notes on any recent examinations, an attempt was made to visit the AV at the address on the PVC. The address led us to an old site for the clinic and directed inspectors to a new location which was not detailed anywhere or updated on the PVC. The AV didn't keep his scheduled visit with the facility and the Program of Veterinary Care was not updated with the current location of the part-time veterinarians information. It is important to update the PVC with accurate information to assist the facility in getting the animals adequate care in the manner the program of veterinary care prescribes. In the event the AV doesn't keep his scheduled visit it is up to the facility to reschedule to ensure the animals are being evaluated. Correct from this day forward.

2.33(a)(2)

Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care.

During the inspection a dog was observed with a bite wound on the right front paw that was identified by the facility on August 20, 2021. The Institutional Officer/Principal Investigator observed the wound on August 30, 2021. On August 31, 2021 the IO/PI ordered the Chair to give medications that should only be prescribed by the attending veterinarian. The

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Chair was instructed to wash the wound with chlorohexidine and give cephalixin and rimadyl by mouth. Once the USDA inspectors discovered the wound the AV was then contacted. It was then that the IO/PI arranged for the dog to be transported to a local vet and not the AV. The local clinic that they used did not have a PVC on file. The research facility does not allow the AV appropriate authority to ensure the provision of adequate veterinary care and to oversee the adequacy of other aspects of animal care and use for the well-being of the animals. Correct from this day forward.

2.33(b)(2) Direct

Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care.

While examining the dogs there were several dental issues and dental cleanings had not been conducted. Inspectors examined 10 dogs on hand. There were 6 dogs with a moderate amount of tarter build-up and one dog with severe tarter accompanied with a broken tooth close to the base near the gumline. There weren't any preventable measures in place to ensure healthy teeth for the animals and there was a lack of dental attention evident by the excessive tarter build-up and reddened gums observed. The use of appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries must be made available to ensure that adequate veterinary care is received. Correct from this day forward.

2.33(b)(3) Direct

Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care.

The facility conducts many observations daily between the facility employees and the IACUC Chair. At the time of the inspection veterinary care issues found at the facility needed immediate medical attention and currently the Chair is not allowed to call the attending veterinarian directly in a timely manner to communicate the health concerns of the animals. The facility employees and Chair have been instructed to communicate all of the concerns directly to the Institutional Officer/Principal Investigator and not to call the AV directly. Health concerns aren't being communicated in a direct and timely fashion and many of the animals' conditions are going unattended and are never addressed. There were three dogs at the time of the examination that needed immediate attention, not including a dog with a bite wound to the paw that

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was identified a week prior but received veterinary care when inspectors arrived.

"Cotton" is a 11 year old neutered yellow labrador retriever with an open wound to the left side of his face. The left ear was also full of dark-colored debris completely covered and spilling out from beneath it. The dog was recognized by its excessive head shaking. The Chair has been noting this for a while and he had not received any veterinary care.

The second dog was "Daisey" a 13 year old female pointer with her left lower canine tooth that had broken down to the base of the gum leaving it exposed. She also had excessive tartar and reddened gums. This injury went unnoticed and the AV had not seen the dog nor had it been reported to the IO/PI or the AV.

The third dog was "Kiss" a 12 year old female chocolate labrador retriever which had masses on the face, leg and bilateral masses on the abdomen area. There was a raised mass protruding from the left side of her face. On the left side of her body there was a subcutaneous mass about 3 in. in diameter. There was a subcutaneous mass near her right nipple in the abdominal area that was about 2 in. in diameter. Also a subcutaneous mass that was located on the left front leg that was about 2 in. in diameter. Under her neck there were several subcutaneous masses, nodular in shape, that were smaller than the others noted. These masses had all been observed and reported by the Chair to the IO but there weren't any notes from the attending veterinarian.

Additionally, there was another dog, already identified by the facility, to be transported to the local veterinarian on August 31, 2021 was "Isa" a female rottweiler had a bite wound to the right front paw. There were two visible puncture wounds on the bottom of the paw and the skin and tissue around the wound was reddened and appeared raw and infected. The dog

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was constantly licking the wound during the inspection.

Cotton, Daisey and Kiss were recognized by inspectors to need immediate care and they were transported to the AV September 1, 2021 in the afternoon. Direct and frequent communication is required so that timely and accurate information on problems of animal health, behavior, and well-being is conveyed to the AV. Correct immediately.

2.35(b)

Recordkeeping requirements.

There were 16 dogs that did not have any acquisition forms required. 2 dogs didn't have any acquisition or health certificates. 3 dogs had health certificates but didn't have any acquisition forms. One Rottweiler did not have any papers showing its origination. There was an incomplete acquisition form that indicated 10 yellow labs were received and no other information provided. Every research facility shall make, keep, maintain records or forms which fully and correctly disclose the following information concerning each live dog purchased or otherwise acquired, owned, held, or otherwise. Correct from this day forward.

3.1(a)

Repeat

Housing facilities, general.

The fencing near the walkway of the most eastern exercise pen has a gap approximately 9 inches between it and the walkway and 9 inches from the ground which is large enough for a dog to get wedged. This may allow an animal to get caught under the fencing which could potentially harm the animal. There was also a hole in the fence for a turnout pen adjacent to the patio runs on the main building that was about 5 by 4 fencing links in size. This could also allow an animal to get wedged in the fence. The facilities must be maintained and kept in good repair to keep out unwanted animals and to prevent injury.

3.11(d)

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Cleaning, sanitization, housekeeping, and pest control.

During the inspection throughout the facility there were an excessive number of flies. In the runs of the animals especially those with open wounds there were flies irritating the dogs. An effective program for the control of insects, external parasites affecting dogs, and birds and mammals that are pests, must be established and maintained to promote the health and well-being of the animals and reduce contamination by pests in animal areas. Correct by October 10, 2021.

3.12

Employees

There were several deficiencies involving the maintenance, husbandry, vet care and overall IACUC functions that it is evident that there aren't enough employees to carry out the responsibilities of the facility and committee. Currently there are two fulltime employees with one person conducting mainly enrichment activities for the dogs. One fulltime employee of the facility is also the Chair of the IACUC and is required to carry out daily husbandry practices, bathe 5 dogs a day, manage the facility, conduct the research study, observe vet care issues of the dogs as well as perform duties of the IACUC. Each person subject to the AWA regulations maintaining dogs must have enough employees to carry out the level of husbandry practices and care required to ensure the animals well-being and achieve adequate functioning of the facility. Correct within 45 days.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with the IACUC representative.

Additional Inspectors:

KRISTIN NAPOLI, SUPERVISORY ANIMAL CARE SPECIALIST

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Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
928	64-R-0102	001	BLUE RIDGE KENNEL	31-AUG-2021

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000096	<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>	DOG ADULT
000096	Total	