



General Animal Welfare Checklist

Audit the Program against the following Program requirements:

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS – OIE’s Terrestrial Animal Health Code, Introduction to the Recommendations for Animal Welfare

- (1) Identify animal welfare scheme program documents and sections that address each criterion.
- (2) Explanations and/or comments must be provided to provide enough evidence of conformance or non-conformance, as applicable.

OIE’s Terrestrial Animal Health Code, General Animal Welfare Criteria	Applicant Reference Document	Conform (Y/N?)	Objective Evidence/Findings/Remarks
Criteria for General Animal Welfare			
1. The scientific assessment of animal welfare involves diverse elements which need to be considered together, and that selecting and weighing these elements often involves value-based assumptions which SHOULD be made as explicit as possible.			
2. Genetic selection SHOULD always take into account the health and welfare of animals.			
3. Animals chosen for introduction into new environments SHOULD be suited to the local climate and able to adapt to local diseases, parasites and nutrition.			
4. The physical environment, including the substrate (walking surface, resting surface, etc.), SHOULD be suited to the species so as to minimize risk of injury and transmission of diseases or parasites to animals.			
5. The physical environment SHOULD allow comfortable resting, safe and comfortable movement including normal postural changes, and the opportunity to perform types of natural behavior that animals are motivated to perform			
6. Social grouping of animals SHOULD be managed to allow positive social behavior and minimize injury, distress and chronic fear.			
7. For housed animals, air quality, temperature and humidity SHOULD support good animal health and not be aversive. Where extreme conditions occur, animals SHOULD not be prevented from using their natural methods of thermo-regulation.			

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8. Animals SHOULD have access to sufficient feed and water, suited to the animals' age and needs, to maintain normal health and productivity and to prevent prolonged hunger, thirst, malnutrition or dehydration.			
9. Diseases and parasites SHOULD be prevented and controlled as much as possible through good management practices. Animals with serious health problems SHOULD be isolated and treated promptly or killed humanely if treatment is not feasible or recovery is unlikely.			
10. Where painful procedures cannot be avoided, the resulting pain SHOULD be managed to the extent that available methods allow			
11. The handling of animals SHOULD foster a positive relationship between humans and animals and SHOULD not cause injury, panic, lasting fear or avoidable stress.			
12. Owners and handlers SHOULD have sufficient skill and knowledge to ensure that animals are treated in accordance with these principles.			

NOTE: When this checklist is complete, print to ADOBE and add to the audit documentation.