

Inspection Report

Section 1:

Name of applicant or current licence holder:

Name of circus:

Location of circus:
Postcode: CW12 4RQ

Tel no. Fax no.

Name of inspector	Name of company/venue	Name of applicant
<input type="text" value="REDACTED"/>	<input type="text" value="REDACTED"/> (AHVLA)	Mr P Jolly Snr <input type="text" value="REDACTED"/>
		<input type="text" value="REDACTED"/> Mr T Chipperfield <input type="text" value="REDACTED"/>

Date and start time of inspection: Date and finish time of inspection:

Preamble to Inspector's Report*

This visit is an unannounced touring inspection, carried out by the nominated inspector accompanied on the visit by , Animal health Officer, AHVLA (Preston).

The Circus Management and staff provided all necessary details and access to areas during the inspection.

The information supplied prior to the inspection was verified and mostly found to be correct, however the list of authorised persons had been modified and a full copy of the current list will be forwarded with the report. At the time of the inspection the Circus was located at a large Farm shop site close to Astbury CW12 4RQ. The site was well grassed and drained and large enough to allow of outdoor grazing for all the hoofed stock enclosed by a fence and monitored regularly. The indoor (covered) accommodation for the animals was in place and was checked. The outdoor facilities are described later.

The received stock list of non-domestic animals was correct at the time of receipt, but did not show the large cats as, at the last inspection which took place at winter quarters, those animals were not present. Other than that exception and the presence of numerous domestic species the list was complete. The "passport" photographs and copies received from DEFRA previously were used to identify the list of large cat stock which should have been present (see later).

The format of the performance is such that the ring cage for the big cats is in place as the public enters the Big Top and thus that is the first act. There is no opening parade.

1. The Zebra are still in training and appear in the ring, only in a mixed species parade. Time approx 5 minutes. (This parade consists of the animals walking around the ring under the control of keepers and the supervision of the operator, whilst a brief background commentary of each species is given by the ringmaster). No interspecies incompatibility was noted.
2. The reindeer appear in the performance in the mixed species parade. Time approx 5 minutes
3. The Ankole appears in the mixed species parade. Total time about 5 minutes.
4. The camel and Llamas appear in the mixed species parade. Total time 5 minutes
5. The fox appears briefly and rides on the back of an equid around the ring, neither animal appeared

troubled by the combination. Time about 2 minutes. Supervised by the operator.

6. The raccoon is led around the ring on a lead and carries out a weaving walk on an elevated platform. Approx appearance time 2 minutes.

7. The snakes appear briefly in the "taste of Egypt" scene draped around an operator's shoulders. They are draped over a staff member dressed as an Egyptian princess who lies on a low platform. Total time about 4 minutes. There is also a brief appearance at the interval for display only.

8. Only the two adult lions and one adult tiger appear in the performance. The tiger jumps a low barrier, performs a back roll and jumps through an LED lit hoop. All these were performed without any problem and were well within the animal's natural capability.

Two lions appear in the ring one heavier maned male (Tsavo) performing most activities including jumps from one stand to another, sitting briefly on a rotating stand, performing a hind leg sit up and a "kiss" with the handler. All activity was carried through without any evidence of coercion of the animals. They appeared relaxed and comfortable with the work expected.

The ring entry for the big cats is directly through a strong heavy duty synthetic fibre rope tunnel which is directly connected to the ring enclosure at one end and to the beast wagon at the other with metal framed supports at regular intervals. The tunnel is monitored at three points, the wagon exit, alongside the tunnel, (prior to big top entry) and on the inside of the big top prior to entry to the cage in the circus ring. Total performance time is about 9 minutes.

9. Other acts which include domestic species (Dogs, goats, cats, doves, geese, donkeys, ponies, horses) are all quite short in time varying from 2-5 minutes. No evidence of compromise of welfare was noted and all animals appeared in good condition.

10. During the interval rides are offered on 2 ponies, 2 donkeys and a horse all individually supervised by handlers. One of the snakes is also displayed around the neck of its handler for exhibition to the public- no touching of that animal was permitted. The interval lasts about 15 minutes.

11. The total performance time including interval was 2hrs 5 minutes.

*This might include general background of the circus (type of animals, number of animals and information obtained from the stock list and the other required forms supplied by Inspectorate at Bristol) and any relevant information gathered prior to the inspection

Information and guidance about the Welfare of Wild Animals in Travelling Circuses (England) Regulations 2012 is available at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-pets/circuses/>

Section 2: Findings at Inspection

Level of compliance should be included in report using a RAG rating - Green – full compliance/minor breach (no action required)/ Amber – breach identified (remedial action recommended) / Red – significant breach (action required).

Standards and questions	Comments/clarification	Compliance (RAG)
<p>(1) Staff</p> <p>Is unsupervised access to licensed animals restricted to authorised persons?</p>	<p>The staff list indicates the practice for access to and management of, the animals. A significant number of staff have toured with this circus for some years and are familiar with SOPs. Some staff have now left and been replaced a full list of current staff is attached. Only A+ staff manage the big cats.</p>	<p>G</p>
<p>(2) Healthcare</p> <p>Do all licensed animals appear to be in good health?</p>	<p>On visual examination, all animals appeared in good health, were well kept and housed in clean conditions.</p>	<p>G</p>
<p>(3) Environment</p> <p>Are areas used by licensed animals operated in a way that provides good welfare?</p> <p>Are areas a suitable size?</p> <p>Are areas in good condition and free from hazards?</p> <p>Are areas sufficiently secure?</p> <p>Are areas suited to the social, behavioural and environmental needs of the animals?</p> <p>Do animals have sufficient access to exercise and enrichment?</p> <p>Are areas hygienic and clean?</p> <p>Do areas have a suitable floor?</p> <p>Are environmental factors managed, including shelter from the elements?</p> <p>Is due regard had for species specific guidance?</p>	<p>Outdoor facilities: Large field for grazing animals.</p> <p>Yes. On the site inspected The conditions for the big cats were the same as previously reported on the previous touring inspection (2nd Nov 2013), the large trough for bathing was present. Enrichment and other facilities were as reported previously and are satisfactory.</p> <p>Yes. Wagons are grouped around the animal quarters to deter outside interference.</p> <p>Yes. The Big cat wagon is custom built and has adequate indoor accommodation with easy access to the outdoor run at the time of the inspection. Furnishing consists of logs for scratching, tyres and clean bedding. Any unfixed enrichment material is either secured or removed for travelling. The outdoor run is securely attached in place with double door access. No susceptible prey animals were in view of the big cats.</p> <p>Yes. The big cats share the exercise area for specific periods throughout the day. Compatibility appears satisfactory. Hoofed stock have access to a large grazing area controlled by a fence and monitored almost continuously.</p> <p>Yes. Grassed areas were in good condition and extensive on this site.</p> <p>Yes this is closely followed. Shelter is provided in the large marquee for grazing animals and in the wagon for the large cats.</p> <p>Indoor areas:</p> <p>Most hoofed stock (when not grazing) are held in a large marquee sub-divided by metal meshed / reinforced barriers, When the public is allowed access these animals are haltered & tethered, but are allowed free in the fenced grazing during the rest of the day. No interspecies disruption was noted. Water and forage was plentiful.</p> <p>Grassed areas under cover were overlaid with dry straw where any deterioration /poaching was noted</p>	<p>G</p>
<p>(4) Diet</p> <p>Is food stored properly?</p> <p>Is food prepared properly?</p>	<p>Food storage is in a dedicated area in one of the circus wagons. Food is stored in vermin proof and water repellent barrels. Standard commercial foodstuffs appropriate for the species kept are supplied and forage of suitable quality is adequately presented. Access to fresh water is always available from on site tanks and on this site mains water was also available There is a freezer</p>	<p>G</p>

	in the service wagon for the big cats, which holds meat for their consumption and appropriate utensils and a clean area for cutting and preparing.	
(5) Display, training and performance	The inspectors observed a typical performance. Details of performance times etc are logged on page 1 of this report	G
<p>Are the precautions required by the assessment of welfare risks carried out?</p> <p>Are animals fit for the activities expected of them?</p> <p>Are only suitable areas used for display, training and performance?</p> <p>Are display, training and performance correctly staffed?</p> <p>Are items of equipment (including aids, props, costumes, decoration etc) designed, maintained and used appropriately?</p> <p>Are the animals checked after carrying out activities?</p> <p>Are there signage and announcements to inform the public?</p>	<p>Yes. Compliance in this respect was noted.</p> <p>Yes. All animals seen appeared healthy.</p> <p>Yes. Display areas for the public to view the animals in the "quarters" marquee are adequate in size, well monitored by staff and hand sterilisation materials are present with appropriate warning signage. Stand off barrier is present around the outdoor cage of the big cat area and the cage itself is secure.</p> <p>Yes. Training and performance are staffed in accord with the staff listings. Compliance with the licence conditions of this section was noted.</p> <p>Yes. All props, tack, costumes and decorations are adequate and safe where contact with the animals occurs. Most show tack is custom made to fit.</p> <p>Yes all are checked on completion of their performance after being returned to their quarters and any abnormalities reported for early or immediate attention.</p> <p>Yes. Announcements are made prior to the performance and repeated at the interval. Announcements with regard to the visits by the public to the animal quarters are made at the end of the performance. During the exotic animal parade there is also a brief commentary on the animals shown.</p> <p>There is a holding area at the rear of the ring where animals are briefly held before entering the Ring (not the big cats). Time here is minimal and animals are mainly tacked up in the adjacent large housing marquee, immediately prior to entrance during the preceding act. Water is freely available here, but water is not normally present in the area directly behind the entrance to the ring. It is rarely required here as waiting time is short and the animals are returned to their quarters immediately following performance, where water is available at all times.</p>	
(6) Breeding	Yes. The camel and ankole are solitary so no breeding will occur. They have been housed adjacent to the other hoofed stock for several years and no abnormal behaviour has been recorded. There does not appear to be any welfare problem or incompatibility. Zebra male is as yet immature and all reindeer males are neutered animals. Breeding controls either chemical or surgical are in use where required in the Big cats. The two male lions are at present entire. Yes. See note later re Vet care etc.	G
<p>Are the health and welfare needs of animals during all stages of the breeding process met?</p> <p>Is guidance on fitness followed?</p> <p>Is suitable veterinary care provided?</p>		
(7) Transport	Yes. All animals seen were fit for transport. Yes. The animal wagons are purpose built and have access ramps leading to the flat bed area which has non slip flooring and appropriate swing partitions to allow separation of animals as required. All animals are trained to load quietly and are hand led on halters to their stalls.	G
<p>Check for evidence of unfit animals being transported. Can you confirm this is not the case?</p> <p>Are transport containers and any fitting (etc) suitable?</p>		

Criteria	Compliance	Grade
<p>(1) Tour itinerary</p> <p>Confirm that the inspectorate was informed of the correct current and future location of the licensed travelling circus.</p>	<p>A written itinerary was supplied which appeared correct and included details of distance and duration of journeys. Most journeys are relatively short and take less than half a day for completion and set up. Itineraries for the subsequent moves were not available at the time of inspection, but will be forwarded to DEFRA when agreed.</p>	<p>G</p>
<p>(2) List of licensed animals</p> <p>Confirm that every animal present which is covered by the licence is uniquely identified</p>	<p>The animals listed were present and identities confirmed where possible. The "passport" details previously forwarded earlier in the year were used to specify the number of big cats held. It was not possible at the inspection to read the Microchips in all the big cats. The operator has constructed a crush area inside the travelling wagon which is effective but not all the animals are yet reliably trained to use this facility, thus full readings were not possible from 1 tiger and 1 lion. Further reinforcement training will be continued. Where microchips could not be confirmed the inspector and the AHVLA officer were able to use the "passports" with good quality photographs to identify the remaining animals.</p>	<p>G</p>
<p>(3) List of current location of licensed animals</p> <p>Confirm that the whereabouts of all animals covered by a licence</p>	<p>YES. All animals listed were present at the location, with the addition of the big cats which were not displayed on the last stock list as they were not held at the winter quarters of the rest of the animals.</p>	<p>G</p>
<p>(4) Individual records</p> <p>Confirm that a single source of information about an animal's signalment (age, breed, sex, etc) health and welfare history, including all relevant clinical, health and behavioural data is quickly available at the present location of the animal.</p>	<p>YES. Individual records were available for inspection and information therein appeared up to date and accurate. All such paperwork was easily accessed and clear in presentation.</p>	<p>G</p>
<p>(5) Care Plans</p> <p>Do Care Plans demonstrate that good welfare standards have been planned for and put into practice?</p> <p>Do they record that the welfare needs of licensed animals are being provided for? (Particular note should be taken of the daily record sheets)</p> <p>Are they reviewed regularly?</p> <p>Group Care Plans and Individual Care Plans should each include sections on:</p> <p>(a) assessment of welfare risks</p> <p>(b) behavioural and environmental enrichment</p> <p>(c) breeding</p>	<p>YES. Care plans were present and in use and appeared up to date and accurately recording procedures.</p> <p>YES. Behavioural activity and enrichment was provided for in the care plans and confirmed by observation at the site.</p> <p>YES. Diet sheets are constructed with appropriate content and the recommendations therein appear to be followed.</p> <p>YES if so required according to health, state of any physical cycles, or other significant factors etc.</p> <p>Yes. General welfare risks have been assessed and the specific risks associated with the management of the big cats have been introduced.</p> <p>Yes behavioural and enrichment requirements appear to have been fulfilled adequately. For the large cats, enrichment is provided in the wagon and more extensively in the outdoor enclosure when on site as described.</p>	<p>G</p>

<p>(d) dietary requirements (e) preventative medicine (f) retirement (These sections may be cross referenced to avoid duplication of recording)</p>	<p>Breeding plans were present but no activity is contemplated at present. Yes. Diet is adequately catered for in line with accepted practice. Yes. retirements plans are present.</p> <p>The veterinary programme including preventative medicine is present and records confirm compliance.</p>	
<p>(6) Daily Records Do the Daily Records record include all factors relevant to welfare of the licensed animals (a) Diet (b) Training, including results of checks carried out after activities (c) Environment (d) General Observations</p>	<p>YES.</p> <p>All records appear to be kept and archived as required</p> <p>Yes. Records are clear, comprehensive, compliant and up to date.</p>	G
<p>(7) List of authorised persons Confirm that only persons that have appropriate qualifications, experience or supervision are permitted to access and care for the licensed animals</p>	<p>The authorised persons list is complete and compliance throughout the period of the inspection was noted. The current list varied from that initially supplied and a copy is annexed to this report. (latest list is dated 1/4/2014).</p>	G
<p>(8) List of authorised persons on duty Confirm that someone is in overall charge of the animals at all times. Do circus staff know who is currently on duty and how to contact them urgently?</p>	<p>YES.</p> <p>Arrangements are in place and as far as I am aware are working satisfactorily.</p> <p>YES.</p>	G
<p>(9) Journey plans Confirm that sufficient planning is being done before embarking on a journey. Are plans updated with important details about the actual journey afterwards? Is a contingency plan in place for each journey? Does a suitable person travel with the animal?</p>	<p>Journey plans and records of subsequent journeys were present and appeared complete.</p> <p>Contingency planning has taken place and is documented and staff are aware of procedures. Extra plans are in place for the Big cats.</p> <p>Animal Wagons are driven only by Category "A+/A" staff, who are assisted /accompanied by at least 1 (Usually 2) category A or B staff.</p> <p>The circus normally travels in one group i.e. in "convoy", which should add another level of safety for contingency action</p>	G
<p>(10) Veterinary Care Are the lead vet and the circus in good communication? Is the lead vet providing continuity of care, veterinary oversight and advice on Care Plans? Are routine quarterly visits carried</p>	<p>YES. At the time of this inspection, Veterinary visits had taken place as required and the number carried out by the Lead Vet was in compliance. It was noted however that the regular routine veterinary visit was due and should be completed as soon as possible YES. Visits are followed by a written report with any relevant recommendations and are filed accordingly.</p> <p>YES. but see note above re next visit due.</p>	G

out by veterinary surgeons?		
Does the lead vet attend at least two of the inspections (of which one of which must be at a tour site and one at winter quarters?)	YES one visit completed the other will be later in the tour programme.	
Are general healthcare and treatments properly administered?	Routine anthelmintic treatment has taken place. The veterinary activities are recorded on the animal's record sheets and confirmed by veterinary correspondence. YES. As far as I am aware	

THE FOLLOWING SPACE IS PROVIDED FOR:

- **ADDITIONAL NOTES AND COMMENTS ON THE ANSWERS TO THE EARLIER QUESTIONS**
- **ANY GENERAL REMARKS WHICH THE INSPECTOR MAY WISH TO RECORD**

The management and staff have made a considerable effort to fully comply with the current requirements and are receptive to constructive advice to ensure ongoing compliance. The records are clear and are in a standard format in use by the Circus Association to which they belong.

Records appear up to date, clearly completed and safely stored. General management and staff competence appears good.

I was not able to see complete evidence of the lead vet CPD. Access to darting equipment for use in the Big cats is now confirmed.

The large cats 3 of which could be confirmed by microchip were:

Tiger Syas 93800000503488 (read and confirmed) Tiger Altai 938000000407281 (read and confirmed) Tiger Nadia 124958090A (not read, but identified by passport)

Lion: Assegai 977200007760549 (read and confirmed)

Lion Tsavo 977200007749074/941000016119347 (Not read, confirmed by passport)

Items for attention:

1. The freezer holding meat for consumption by any carnivores is now clearly marked as containing food for animal consumption only, but no recording of freezer temperature is carried out. I would recommend the use of a max/min thermometer in the freezer to ensure storage at the required temperature is reasonably constant and that records of this monitoring be kept.
2. It is advised that regular (6 monthly or seasonal) staff re-appraisals are carried out either formally or informally and that a record of such be kept.
3. In the case of the Ankole the animal had been tagged and intradermally tested for TB. this was recorded by the operator in the animal's record but no formal record by the veterinary surgeon carrying out the test was seen. This should be completed and up to date.
4. The next veterinary visit is now due and should be completed as soon as possible.
5. Training should continue so that all the animals will move into the crush cage as required and so that microchips may be read for I.D.
6. I was advised that some of the large cats may be double chipped as a result of migration or use of foreign unreadable chips having been previously used, although all animals have now been re-chipped with standard m/chips. It should be ensured that all chips can be read by the standard method or the inspector must be given access to an appropriate reader if non standard chips are likely to be present.

Section 3: Inspectors Recommendation to Defra

Having inspected (name of circus)

operated by (name of operator).

on:

Summarise the potential impact of the issues found on the welfare of the wild animals in this travelling circus, noting the involvement of any other authority.

Current compliance is satisfactory. Record keeping appears accurate and complete. No animal welfare problems are noted at present. The welfare of the ageing animals is closely monitored and ongoing Veterinary care appears prompt and to a high standard.

Under "Recommendation" below, it is not possible to strike out worded areas in the electronic format, so the recommendation " THAT THE CIRCUS CONTINUE TO BE LICENSED " is made in this section.

{This text will be transferred to the letter sent to the circus after the inspection}

Recommendation:

- Licence awarded / Continue to be licensed
- Documentary evidence to demonstrate improvements to be provided
- Early visit recommended to confirm that action taken
- Licence refused / suspended

(Please delete as necessary)

Signed:

Dated:

Section 4: Decision

The Circus Licensing Panel, on behalf of the Secretary of State, makes the following decision:

- ~~It is recommended that a licence be refused/suspended~~
- It is recommended that the above circus be licensed in accordance with the Regulations

(delete as necessary)

Explanatory note if decision if different from recommendation

Signed:

S. G. Ellis

Dated:

11/07/14

The Inspector should complete sections 1-3 and submit the signed form to the Wildlife Licensing and Registration Team, who will keep one copy and pass one to DEFRA. DEFRA will return a copy of the form with section 4 completed to WLRT.

The Data Protection Act 1998

Information supplied on this form will be used by Defra to monitor the implementation of the Welfare of Wild Animals in Travelling Circuses (England) Regulations. The information will be held on a central database at Defra and will be used to issue relevant guidance and information to travelling circuses. The information will also be used as a resource to develop relevant training and guidance for the Secretary of State's Circus Inspectors and to field circus related questions and issues addressed from time to time by Non Governmental Organisations, members of the public, Members of Parliament, Government Ministers, other Government Departments. Defra may be required to release information, including personal data and commercial information, on request under the Environmental Information Regulation, the Code of practice on Access to Government Information or the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, Defra will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor will we act in contravention of our obligations under the Data Protection Act 1998.



11 July 2014

Dear Mr Jolly

Routine inspection under the Welfare of Wild Animals in Travelling Circuses (England) Regulations 2012

As you know, an unannounced inspection of your travelling circus took place on 25 June 2013 under the Welfare of Wild Animals in Travelling Circuses (England) Regulations 2012 (the Regulations).

Decision of the Circus Licensing Panel

In summary, the inspector found that current compliance was satisfactory. Record-keeping appears accurate and complete. No animal welfare problems were noted and the welfare of the ageing animals is closely monitored and ongoing.

As before, a copy of the inspection report is now attached for your information. You are reminded that, where an inspection report's use in deciding the status of a licence has been concluded, it is our usual policy to release inspection reports in response to any Freedom of Information request.

The inspector's findings have been considered by a panel of officials on behalf of the Secretary of State, who were satisfied that at the time of the visit the conditions of the Regulations appeared to be being complied with and who have recommended that your current licence is allowed to continue.

While the inspector was satisfied that all of the licence conditions are being met by your circus, there were some additional points noted which you should consider now, with input from your lead vet as required:

1. The Panel noted that the inspector had trouble with reading the microchips of some of the big cats. For future inspections we would be grateful if you could clarify, prior to the inspection, which scanners will work with the microchips in all the big cats. This will enable us to ensure the inspector is equipped with the right microchip

scanner. While the Panel appreciated that there would always be an element of unpredictability when dealing with wild animals, they also would encourage you to continue training the big cats to become more accustomed to having their microchips read.

2. The Panel noted the inspector's comment about the Ankole's test for TB and agreed that the Ankole's individual record should be updated by the veterinary surgeon who carried out the test with details of the TB testing carried out.
3. The Panel noted the absence of water at the rear of the ring where the animals (not the big cats) are held prior to entering the Ring. The inspector noted that the animals were only held here for a short time. However, you are reminded that, as we reminded you in my letter of 25 July 2013, the Guidance on the Regulations states that "Fresh, clean drinking water of sufficient quantity must be available at all times" (Section 4 Diet, paragraph 4C). Water should be continuously available, but if this is not practical then, at the very least, water should be offered regularly (e.g. every hour) and this, as well as consumption, should be recorded.
4. The Panel also noted comments by the Inspector that your list of authorised persons was not up to date and that the stock list did not include the big cats. The absence of the big cats from the stock list appears to be due to the Inspector receiving an older version of the stock list from AHVLA. I can confirm that Defra holds a copy of the stock list which includes the big cats. I can confirm that Defra also holds a copy of the updated authorised persons list (received 17 June). However, the updated list was emailed to Defra twice but not emailed to AHVLA, who would have forwarded the Inspector the previous version for the inspection. You are asked to ensure that all documents relating to your licence that are sent to Defra are also sent to AHVLA.
5. The Panel also noted the inspector's recommendation that you should use a maximum/minimum thermometer in the freezer holding the meat for consumption by carnivores to ensure the required temperature is kept reasonably constant and that records of this monitoring should be kept. The Panel thought this was a sensible suggestion but, as it is not a requirement under these Regulations, it was a decision for you whether to adopt this practice.

Further Inspections

We made clear to you when issuing your licence that there would be at least two additional inspections during the year. The inspection on the 25 June 2014 represented one of these inspections. There will be at least one further announced inspection. The Secretary of State also retains the power to undertake further announced or unannounced inspections during the remaining period of your licence. Additional inspections may also be required in response to changes in your stock list, any complaints received or concerns raised about the wild animals in your circus.

You will usually be charged for the costs of any further inspection visits, once they have taken place.

S. G. Ellis.

(Issued on behalf of the Secretary of State)