

# STATE OF GEORGIA ANIMAL IMPORTATION CONTROL

by

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## ABSTRACT

A dissertation designed to support the assertion that stringent regulatory measures are necessary and justified to control the importation, transportation, possession, sale or release of any wildlife in the territorial limits of the State of Georgia. The growing tendency of the general public to seek out every source of wildlife on a world-wide basis, then attempt to convert these into household pets has caused this State to initiate aggressive action to regulate and control. It is the purpose of this paper to identify the procedure established to that end.

## INTRODUCTION

Hunting and fishing laws of the state of Georgia generally govern the manner and means of killing, trapping, capturing, transporting, storing, selling and using the wildlife of Georgia for both sport and commercial purposes. Due to the tendency for man to expropriate and otherwise take measures to manipulate for selfish and unacceptable purposes, the Legislature has taken measures to further regulate the importation of Wildlife into the State.<sup>1</sup> This law became effective April 19, 1973. This paper will identify the salient features of the law and the methods of implementation being employed.

## DISCUSSION

Man has displayed both fear for and a curiosity of wild animals for hundreds of years. This paradox, fear versus curiosity, has spawned the development of various means of obtaining, holding and exhibiting wildlife, especially wild animals. This phenomenon has involved both large and small species. Furthermore, these interests have generated the booming pet industry throughout the United States.

The climate in the South Eastern part of these United States, including the state of Georgia, is conducive to the proliferation of certain species of wildlife which could:

- (1) Present a threat to human health and safety or,
- (2) Provide an unacceptable level of competition for native wildlife or,
- (3) Become agriculture pests or,
- (4) Introduce disease into our native wildlife.

One of the important facets of any enforceable controls is the development of criteria for standards and subsequent evaluation. This requirement was met by the establishment of a criteria committee.<sup>2</sup> The committee consists of those agencies in state government with a vested interest in the import of wildlife and a concern over the impact that uncontrolled import would most probably bring about. Those agencies are identified as:

- (1) The Department of Agriculture;
- (2) The Department of Human Resources;
- (3) The Department of Natural Resources; and
- (4) A zoo keeper employed in the state of Georgia.

The committee was given carte blanche legal authority to set standards relating to: (1) housing; (2) handling; (3) care; (4) treatment; (5) sale; and transportation of wild animals.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Georgia Animal Importation Act. Georgia Law Number 719 (House Bill Number 444) 1973, (attached as Inclosure 1).

<sup>2</sup>Section 3, para (a), Georgia Animal Importation Act, 1973.

<sup>3</sup>Proposed regulations to be promulgated by the Board of Natural Resources, State of Georgia (attached as Inclosure 2).

The act also authorized the committee to determine what wild animals may be--<sup>4</sup>

- (1) Imported,  
transported,  
possessed, or  
sold *without permit*
- (2) Imported,  
transported,  
possessed, or  
sold *with permit only*, and
- (3) those wild animals  
that may not be  
imported,  
transported,  
possessed, or,  
sold *under any conditions within this State*.

The Act makes a clear distinction between the procedure as it applies to wholesale and retail dealers, and individuals desiring to import, transport, possess or sell wild animals.

Fundamentally the former are both licensed; the latter is authorized by permit. Both of the functions are controlled and the documents issued, upon application, by the Director of the Game and Fish Division, Department of Natural Resources. All such requests are evaluated in terms of the standards established by the criteria committee and promulgated by the Board of Natural Resources, so as to insure that those business establishments and individuals involved meet minimum requirements.<sup>5</sup> The license requires a fee of twenty-five dollars, renewable annually; whereas, each person obtaining a permit is required to pay five dollars for each wild animal involved or named in the request for the permit. A type form for making application is provided.

## SUMMARY

There were several factors involved in Georgia's decision to regulate the importation, transportation, holding and selling of wild animals. One of the factors which had a great deal of bearing on the subject was the relatively new fad of buying all kinds of exotic animals as house pets. Requests to the Department for permits to hold animals as pets include such things as cheetahs, lions, bears, wolves, and various types of venomous reptiles. One individual in Atlanta is currently holding a pet elephant.

Very few of the people who wish to purchase exotics for pets realize the expense that is involved in providing the necessary requirements for space, sanitation and food. After obtaining the animals, they suddenly learn that there is a great deal more expense involved than the initial purchase price; and this realization often dampens the enthusiasm and too often results in the animal being neglected and eventually dying. The alternatives to properly caring for the animal usually are selling it at a financial loss, which they are usually reluctant to do, or else releasing the animal into the wild, which we are afraid they will do.

Another important factor involved is health. Not only the health of other animals, but also the health of humans. Most sub-human primats are carriers of a number of diseases which may be transmitted to man, i.e., tuberculosis, yellow fever, hepatitis, rabies, and one of the most dreadful of all, Monkey B. Virus, which can turn a man into vegetable. Furthermore, the traffic in some exotic animals may also represent a serious drain on the populations of some of these animals taken from various locations throughout the world. As for the indigenous animals, some represent a problem to the management of wildlife and general health of the citizens of this State, such as skunks and raccoons, both of which are reservoirs for rabies virus.

<sup>4</sup>Ibid

<sup>5</sup>Department of Natural Resources Pet Shop Inspection Checklist (attached as Inclosure 3).

Experience has shown also that the control of birds is essential to the continued well-being of Georgia's valuable poultry industry. Poultry is a \$180,000,000 industry that is critical to the economic well-being of our State. Consequently, we cannot afford to have parakeets, mynahs or other birds come into the State and bring an outbreak of exotic Newcastle disease, a virus disease which attacks all birds, but is especially destructive when it invades large poultry flocks.

For all of these reasons control methods have been established. The success or failure depends primarily upon the priority this function is to be given by the enforcement element of the Department.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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## LITERATURE CITED

- Georgia Animal Importation Act. Georgia Law 719 (HB 444) 1973.  
Georgia Department of Natural Resources Regulations pertaining to standards for the health and sanitation of wild animals with check list and license application form (proposed).

## GEORGIA ANIMAL IMPORTATION ACT

No. 719 (House Bill No. 444)

An Act to be known as the Georgian Animal Importation Act; to provide for definitions; to prohibit the importation, transportation, possession, sale or release of any wild animal except under the provisions of this Act; to prohibit the release of any live wild animal within this State; to provide for confinement and inspection of certain wild animals; to provide for the disposition of diseased animals and animals imported, transported, possessed, sold or released in violation of this Act; to create the Wild Animal Criteria Committee; to provide for the establishment of standards relating to the housing, handling, care, treatment and transportation of wild animals; to provide the establishment of a list of those wild animals which may or may not be imported, transported, possessed, sold, or released alive within this State; to provide for the issuance of permits to import, transport, possess or sell wild animals in this State; to provide for fees for such permits; to provide for the promulgation of regulations; to provide a penalty for violation of this Act; to provide for severability; to repeal conflicting laws; to provide for an effective date; and, for other purposes.

## LEGISLATIVE INTENT

Whereas, man has displayed both fear for and curiosity of wild animals for hundreds of years, and

Whereas, this fear and curiosity has spawned numerous exhibitions of wild animals, both large and small, and has generated today's booming pet trade, and

Whereas, the climate and environment of Georgia is conducive to the proliferation of certain species of animals which could: (1) present a threat to human health and safety; (2) provide competition for native wildlife; (3) become agricultural pests, or, (4) introduce disease into our native wildlife, and

Whereas, the General Assembly of Georgia is deeply interested in protecting our citizens, our agricultural industry, and our wildlife resources from undersirable or dangerous species of animals; Now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Georgia:

Section 1. As used in this Act unless the context clearly requires a different meaning.

(a) "Wild animal" means any animal of the class Aves (birds), class Mammalia (mammals), class Amphibia (frogs, toads, salamanders), class Osteichthyes (bony fishes), class Monorhina (lampreys), class Reptilia (reptiles), walking catfish, or class Gastropoda (slugs and snails) which is not normally domesticated in this State.

(b) "Division" means the Game and Fish Division of the State Department of Natural Resources.

(c) "Committee" means the Wild Animal Criteria Committee.

(d) "Wholesale dealer" means any person who imports, transports or possesses any wild animal for the purpose of resale to a retail dealer, exhibitor, or research facility.

(e) "Retail dealer" means any person who imports, transports or possesses any wild animal for the purpose of sale to the public.

(f) "Person" means any individual partnership, firm, corporation, association or other entity.

(g) "Conservation ranger" means any person authorized by the Department of Natural Resources to enforce laws relating to natural resources.

(h) "Approved quarantine facility" means any facility approved by the Division for the quarantine confinement of wild animals.

(i) "Primary enclosure" means any structure used to immediately restrict an animal or animals to a limited amount of space, such as a room, pen, run, cage or compartment within a quarantine facility.

(j) "Housing facility" means any room, building, or area used to contain a primary enclosure or enclosures or enclosures during the required period of quarantine.

(k) "Euthanasia" means the humane destruction of an animal accomplished by a method that brings about instantaneous unconsciousness and death.

Section 2. (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to import, transport, possess, sell, or release alive into this State, any wild animal, except as provided in this Act and regulations promulgated hereunder; provided however, that this Act shall not apply to confined wild animals while in transit in interstate commerce.

(b) No person having possession or control over any wild animal shall intentionally free, or knowingly permit the escape, or release of such wild animals, except in accordance with the provisions of this Act or regulations promulgated hereunder.

(c) Any person who transports, receives, or imports, into this State, or transports within this State any live wild animal which requires a permit for such importation or transportation, shall hold said animal in an approved quarantine facility and immediately notify the nearest conservation ranger of the arrival thereof. If there is found in any shipment any species not specified in the permit issued under this Act, or more than the number of any species specified, said wild animal shall be declared contraband and seized and disposed of as ordered by the Director of the Division.

(d) If during inspection, upon arrival, any wild animal is found to be diseased, or there is reason to suspect the presence of disease, which is or

may be detrimental to agriculture, to native wildlife, or to the public health or safety, the diseased wild animal, and if necessary, the entire shipment shall be euthanized by, or under the supervision of the Division, unless no detriment can be caused by its detention in quarantine for such time and under such conditions as shall be satisfactory to the Division for disinfection, treatment, or diagnosis or no detriment can be caused by its return to point of origin at the option and expense of the owner or consignee.

(e) Whenever any wild animal is brought into this State under permit as provided in this Act, authorized employees of the Division shall, from time to time, examine the conditions under which such species is kept, and report to the Division any suspicion or knowledge of any disease or violation of the conditions of the permit or the regulations promulgated under the provisions of this Act. The Division may order the euthanasia of such species or the correction of the conditions under which the species is being kept if not in conformance with the terms of the permit, at the expense of the owner or consignee.

Section 3. (a) There is hereby created a Wild Animal Criteria Committee which shall be composed of: (1) The Commissioner of Agriculture or his permanently designated alternate; (2) The Commissioner of the Department of Human Resources or his permanently designated alternate; (3) The Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources or his permanently designated alternate; (4) A zookeeper employed in the State of Georgia who shall be selected by the other three members of the committee. This Committee shall call upon such expertise as it deems necessary. The Committee shall select one of its members as chairman and shall upon call of the chairman or upon the call of a majority of its members.

(b) The Committee shall develop standards relating to the housing, handling, care, treatment, sale and transportation of wild animals.

(c) Standards developed by the Committee shall be conveyed to the Board of Natural Resources who shall, at their next meeting, promulgate standards as official regulations of the Board of Natural Resources. Such standards, when so promulgated by the Board of Natural Resources shall have the force and effect the law.

(d) The Committee shall establish and shall publish from time to time as changes arise a list of those wild animals which may be imported, transported, possessed, or sold without a permit, those wild animals which may be imported, transported, possessed, or sold only be permit as provided herein, and a list of those wild animals which may not be imported, transported, possessed or sold under any conditions within this State.

(e) The Division shall issue permits for the importation, transportation, sale or possession of approved wild animals within this State; provided however, that wholesalers and retailers licensed under subsection (g) below shall not be required to obtain such permits. Permits shall be issued only upon receipt of a written application on forms provided by the Division.

(f) Individuals may import, transport, possess or sell those wild animals for which a permit is required only upon receipt of a permit from the Department of Natural Resources. Such permit shall be granted subject to the standards developed by the Wild Animal Criteria Committee and shall be revoked upon violation of any provisions of this Act or any standard or regulation promulgated hereunder. Each person obtaining a permit shall:

(1) Pay a fee of \$5 for each wild animal.

(2) Report to the Division at least 72 hours in advance of arrival the date, time and location that any import is to arrive within this State; or, date, time and location that any wild animal is to be shipped or transported from and the name and address of the person to whom the shipment is being made; or, the name and address of any person to whom any wild animal is sold.

(g) Wholesale or retail dealers may import, transport, possess or sell approved wild animals upon receipt of a wholesale dealers license from the Department of Natural Resources. Such license shall be granted subject to the standards developed by the Wild Animal Criteria Committee and shall be revoke upon violation of any provision of this Act or any standard or regulation promulgated hereunder. Wholesale or retail dealers shall:

(1) Pay an annual license fee of \$25.

(2) File a monthly report with the Division listing all wild animals imported and sold during the proceeding month. Said report shall include information showing the name and address of the person from whom each wild animal imported was obtained and the species sold and name and address of the person to whom all sales were made during the month. All such reports shall be submitted by the 10th of the following month. Failure to submit such a report shall be unlawful and shall cause the revocation of the dealer's license.

(3) Import, transport or sell only those species approved under the provisions of this Act, and only after being licensed to do so.

(4) Meet all conditions which are attached to and made a part of the license.

(h) Each application for an individual permit to import, transport or sell shall include:

(1) The number and true scientific name of each species of wild animal for which a permit is requested.

(2) The carrier and probable point of first arrival in this State of each shipment coming into this State.

(3) The purpose for which the wild animals are to be imported or transported.

(4) The name and address of the consignee.

(5) The name and address of the shipper.

(i) Each individual permit issued shall set forth all of the following:

(1) The number and true scientific name of the species of wild animal for which the permit is granted.

(2) A statement of the manner and conditions under which the entry of such species is permitted.

(3) A statement of the conditions under which the species shall be kept during transportation or after importation.

(j) Whenever any permit is issued under the provisions of this Act, one copy shall be furnished to the consignee, one copy to the shipper and one copy shall accompany each shipment of wild animals.

(k) It shall be unlawful for any person to import, transport, possess or sell any wild animal for which a permit is required without first obtaining that permit, and no person shall import, transport, possess or sell any wild animal except in accordance with the conditions of the permit.

Section 4. (a) Any wild animal brought into this State or transported or possessed within this State in violation of any provision of this Act or any standards or regulations promulgated hereunder may, upon notice of the Division, be shipped out of the State, returned to the point of origin, or euthanized within the time specified in said notice, at the option of the owner or consignee.

(b) The exercise of any such option shall be under the direction and control of the Division and at the expense of the owner or consignee. If the owner or consignee fails to exercise such option within the time specified in the notice, the Division shall immediately seize and dispose of any such wild animals as Director of the Division shall order. Such disposal shall be made at the expense of the owner or consignee.

(c) Any wild animal prohibited entry into this State under the provisions of this Act or any regulation promulgated thereunder, or for which permits are denied, found in the possession of any person, shall be seized and disposed of as ordered by the Director of the Division.

(d) Whenever any wild animal for which a permit has been issued under the provisions of this Act or any regulation promulgated thereunder, is found at large or not kept in confinement in accordance with the provisions of the permit, it shall be summarily destroyed by the Division.

Section 5. The Board of Natural Resources shall promulgate regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this Act.

Section 6. Any person violating any provision of this Act, or any regulation promulgated thereunder shall, upon conviction be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished as provided by law. In addition to any criminal penalties imposed, such person shall also forfeit any licenses or permits held under the provisions of this Act and shall not be eligible to receive any such licenses or permits until after the expiration of twelve months from the date of the revocation or forfeiture of such licenses or permits.

Section 7. Any laws or parts of laws in conflict with this Act, or any part thereof, is hereby repealed.

Section 8. Should any clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part of this Act, for any reason, be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid for any reason, such judgement shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder hereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgement shall have been rendered. The General Assembly hereby declares that it would have enacted the remaining provisions of this Act had it had knowledge of the invalidity of the part so held to be invalid.

Section 9. This Act shall become effective upon the approval of the Governor, or upon its otherwise becoming law without his approval.

Approved April 19, 1973.

Definitions.

Violations.

Criteria  
committee.

Violations,  
options.

Rules.

Penalty.

Severability.

Effective date.

**STATE OF GEORGIA  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
STANDARDS RELATING TO  
THE HEALTH AND SANITATION OF WILD ANIMALS**

The proper management of wild animals is defined as any system of housing and care that permits animals to grow, mature, reproduce, or behave normally, and to be maintained in physical comfort and good health. Some of the specific considerations that give meaning to this definition are outlined in this document.

**CLASS MAMMALIA**

**A. Housing and Care**

*1. Criteria for evaluating a caging or housing system shall be as follows:*

The caging or housing system is one of the most important single elements in the physical environment for wild animals. Inasmuch as the well-being of the animals is influenced by the housing system, it should always be designed carefully. The following criteria shall be used to evaluate the caging or housing system, (hereinafter referred to as the "system"):

- (a) The system shall be designed with the animals' physical comfort as a primary consideration. Physical comfort, as applied specifically to housing, includes factors such as keeping the animals dry and clean or providing an appropriate aquatic or marine environment maintaining the animal in a state of relative thermal neutrality; providing sufficient space so as to assure freedom of movement and allow for normal postural adjustments; avoiding unnecessary physical restraint; providing convenient access to clean food and water; and, if animals are housed in groups, maintaining them compatibly without overcrowding. Tethering will be prohibited with the exception of raptores, sub-human primates, and pachyderms.
- (b) Space requirements shall in no case be less than those required by the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act (Public Law 89-455).
- (c) The functional operation of the system shall be compatible with the maintenance of the animals in good health and is to be measured by such factors as the maintenance of normal body weight and the prevention of diseases. Housing of different animal species in the same room may contribute to the spread of infectious diseases. This can be prevented by housing only the same species in a single room area or cage.
- (d) The system shall be designed to facilitate effective sanitary maintenance and technical servicing. For example, bends and crevices in animal cages that may be difficult to clean, shall be avoided; feeding and watering devices shall be easily accessible for filling or changing.
- (e) Throughout the system, the maintenance of the cages, runs, and pens in good repair shall be mandatory, to prevent injury to the animals, to promote physical comfort, and prevent escape. Particular attention shall be given to avoiding sharp corners and edges or broken wires and to maintaining cage floors in good condition to prevent injury.

**B. Sanitary Practices**

*1. Cleanliness*

- (a) The animal facility shall be kept clean. A regular schedule of sanitary maintenance is required, including the elimination of feces, urine, and wastes of toxic and infectious nature.
- (b) Animal rooms, corridors, storage spaces, and other areas of the animal facility shall be cleaned as often as necessary using appropriate detergents and disinfectants to keep them free of dirt, debris, and other harmful contamination. A continuing requirement shall be to keep these areas neat and uncluttered.



- (c) If litter or bedding is used in animal cages or pens, it shall be removed and replaced as often as necessary to keep the animals dry and clean, and to minimize offensive odors.
- (d) All cages and racks shall be inspected at least once daily and dead animals shall be removed. Animals dying within wholesale or retail institutions must be disposed of within 72 hours either by incineration or other methods approved by the State Department of Human Resources; provided however, that the death of any wild animal under other than ordinary circumstances shall be immediately reported to the Department of Natural Resources and the carcass held for post mortem examination.
- (e) Cages or pens from which animal waste is removed by hosing or flushing shall be cleaned one or more times daily. This system may require removal of the animals during servicing in order to keep them dry.
- (f) Animal cages, racks, aquaria, and accessory equipment, such as feeders and water bottles, shall be cleaned as often as necessary to keep them free from contamination. This can be achieved by washing the cages and accessories once or twice weekly, and the racks every other week. In addition, cages shall always be cleaned before new animals are placed in them.
- (g) Waste containers and implements shall be maintained in a sanitary condition. It is recommended that waste cans have disposable liners and that each container be washed every time it is emptied, using the same methods as suggested above for animal cages.

#### 2. Sanitary Waste Disposal

- (a) All waste shall be collected and removed in a safe, sanitary manner. If waste cans are used, they should be made of metal or plastic, be leakproof, and be equipped with tight-fitting lids. It is advisable to use leakproof disposable liners in waste cans, for disposal of animal tissues, carcasses, and toxic wastes.
- (b) Waste materials shall be removed regularly and frequently. If storage of wastes prior to removal is necessary, the storage area should be physically separated from other storage facilities, and be free from flies, cockroaches, rodents, and other pests.
- (c) Any county or municipal ordinance or regulation governing the disposal of wastes, not in conflict with these regulations, remains in full force and effect.

#### 3. Vermin Control

- (a) Cockroaches, flies, escaped or wild rodents, and similar pests which would constitute a menace in animal facilities shall be effectively controlled or eliminated.
- (b) Vermin control programs shall be instituted in all facilities. Pesticide application must be carried out under provisions of applicable laws and regulations.

### C. Feeding and Watering

#### 1. Feeding

- (a) All animals shall have access to feed according to their particular need or requirement. The food shall be clean, free of contaminants, palatable, and nutritionally adequate. It shall be fed in amounts sufficient to assure normal growth in immature animals and maintenance of normal body weight in adults.

#### 2. Watering

- (a) Wild animals shall have daily access to water, according to their particular requirements. Watering devices such as drinking tubes and spouts, and automatic waterers shall be examined routinely to assure proper operation.

#### D. Health

- (a) Control of the health of wild animals is both a humane and a scientific requirement and will be required of all dealers, both wholesale and retail.
- (b) Wholesale and retail dealers may be required to obtain the services of a veterinarian when clinical signs of disease are observed by an authorized inspection officer.

#### CLASS AVES

Housing, care, sanitation practices, feeding, watering and health care procedures applicable to Class Mammalia are also to be followed for Class Aves. In addition, birds capable of flight shall be provided adequate space to move about and spread their wings.

#### CLASS PISCES

Proper maintenance of this class shall constitute adequate filtration systems and sufficient water supply to sustain healthy conditions. Proper heating and diet are required.

#### CLASS REPTILLIA

##### A. Housing and Care

1. The requirements outlined under Mammalia shall also apply to snakes with the addition of the following:

- (a) Cages with sides, tops or bottoms, which consist of more than 50 per cent screen or wire are prohibited unless the wire or screen is in double layers. Open pits are prohibited.
- (b) Cages housing venomous reptiles shall be maintained within a secure room with screen doors and windows, or windows that are permanently sealed. Such rooms shall be located within a secure, permanent structure. All doors and other openings to possess positive locking or latching action. The basic concept is to create a secure cage kept within an escape-proof room and structure.
- (c) Cages housing mambas, king cobras and taipans shall be equipped with a shift cage directly connecting to the primary cage whereby the specimen shall be transferred to reduce exposure during servicing.
- (d) Caging shall be constructed so as to prevent the escape of reptiles, both adults and their young. Ventilation shall be provided.
- (e) Minimal cage height shall be 12 inches for terrestrial forms with height being added for arboreal forms. Any of the three sides of the cages housing snakes must total the length of the snake housed in that cage. Cage size shall be increased by 10% of the sum of the length of additional snakes introduced. The diameter of circular cages must equal or exceed the total length of snakes therein.

##### B. Sanitation Practices

- (a) Sanitation requirements for snakes shall be the same as for Class Mammalia.

##### C. Feeding and Watering

###### 1. Feeding

- (a) All snakes shall have access to food according to the particular need of each. It shall be fed in amounts sufficient to normal growth and body weight.

###### 2. Watering

- (a) Water requirements for snakes shall be the same as for Class Mammalia.

The requirements outlined under Mammalia shall also apply to turtles with the addition of the following:

- (a) Aquatic turtles shall be housed in water with a minimal depth equal to the maximum height of the shell and to be provided with an adequate basking area. Land turtles and tortoises shall be kept in a dry environment with sufficient drinking water.

- (b) Suitable food shall be offered at least twice weekly.

The requirements outlined Mammalia shall also apply to lizards with the addition of the following:

- (a) Suitable food to be offered at least twice weekly.

The requirements outlined under Mammalia shall also apply to Crocodylians with the addition of the following:

- (a) Suitable food to be offered at least twice weekly.

- (b) Cage length shall be double that of the length of the largest animal housed. Water area approximately equal to the land area is required. Water depth must be such that the largest animal will be able to submerge completely. Overcrowding of pens or cages shall be avoided.

#### CLASS AMPHIBIA

1. Basic standards shall be applicable with adequate moisture and/or water to be supplied.

### IMPORTATION, TRANSPORTATION AND POSSESSION OF WILD ANIMALS

No person, firm or corporation shall import into this State, transport within this State, or possess or release alive in this State any of the following orders, families and genera without first obtaining a permit from the agency designated and without paying such fees as are required by law.

**BIRDS AND EGGS (Class *Aves*)** Prohibited except under permit of the State Department of Agriculture.

#### MAMMALS (Class *Mammalia*)

##### OPOSSUMS - Family Didelphidae

Common opossum (*Didelphis marsupialis*) Admissible without permit.

All other species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.

##### RABBITS, HARES - Order Lagomorpha

Domesticated races admissible without permit.

All other species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.

##### HAMSTERS, FIELD MICE, VOLES, MUSKRATS, GERBILS - Family Crice- tidae

Hamsters and Gerbils of domestic origin admissible without permit.

Field mice, Voles and Muskrats prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.

##### MICE, RATS - Family Muridae

Domesticated races of rats or mice admissible without permit.

All other species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.

##### POCKET MICE, SPINEY RATS, KANGAROO RATS - Family Heteromyidae

All species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.

##### MOLES - Order Insectivora

All species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.

##### ARMADILLOS - Order Edentata

All species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.

##### CHIPMONKS, NUTRIA, PRAIRIE DOGS, SQUIRRELS, WOODCHUCKS - Order Rodentia

All species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.

- RACCOONS, RINGTAILED CATS, KINKAJOUS, COATIS** - Family Procyonidae  
 All species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.
- CATS** - Family Felidae  
 All species of domestic cats admissible without permit.  
 All species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.
- WEASELS, SKUNKS, FERRETS, OTTERS, BADGERS, WOLVERINES, RATS, GRISONS** - Family Mustelidae  
 All species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.
- MONGOOSE, CIVETS** - Family Viverridae  
 All species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.
- WOLVES, COYOTES, FOXES, JACKALS** - Subfamily Caninae  
 All species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.
- FLYING FOXES, FRUIT BATS, VAMPIRE BATS** - Order Chiroptera  
 All species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.
- PRONGHORN** - Family Antilocapridae  
 Prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.
- DEER, ELK, MOOSE, REINDEER, CARIBOU** - Family Cervidae  
 All species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.
- BEAVER** - Family Castoridae  
 All species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.
- CATTLE, BUFFALOES, BISON, SHEEP, GOATS, GAZELLES, OLD WORLD AND AFRICAN ANTELOPE, BUSHBUCKS, BONGOS, BOSBOKS, DIKERS, ELANDS, KUDUS, NILGAIS, ORYXES, WATERBUCKS, WILDBEESTS** - Family Bovidae  
 All species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Agriculture.
- PECCARIES** - Family Tayassuidae  
 All species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Agriculture.
- SWINE** - Family Suidae  
 All species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Agriculture.
- BEARS** - Family Ursidae  
 All species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.
- FROGS, TOADS, SALAMANDERS AND EGGS** (Class *Amphibia*)  
**TOADS** - Family Bufonidae  
 Giant toad or Marine toad (*Bufo marinus*) Prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.
- BONY FISH** (Class *osteichthyes*)  
**PERCH** - Family Serranidae  
 All species admissible without permit.  
**SHAD** - Family Clupeidae  
 All species admissible without permit.  
**DRUM** - Family Sciaenidae  
 All species admissible without permit.

- PIRANHA, PACU - Genus**  
All species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.
- GARS - Family Lepisosteidae**  
All species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.
- BOWFINS - Family Amiidae**  
All species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.
- TOPMINNONS - Family Poeciliidae**  
All species admissible without permit.
- SNAKEHEADS - Family Ophicephalidae**  
All species admissible without permit.
- GOLDFISH, CARP, ORFE - Family Cyprinidae**  
Orfe and Ide (*Leuciscus idus*) and (*Idus idus*) prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.  
Goldfish (*Carrassius auratus*) Admissible without permit.  
Grass Carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idellus*) Prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.  
Carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) Domesticated varieties such as silver, golden, brocade, mirro, etc. are admissible without permit. All other species are prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.
- CATFISH - Family Clariidae**  
Walking catfish (*Clarias batrochus*) Prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.
- REPTILES AND EGGS (Class Reptilia)**
- ALLIGATORS, CAIMANS, CROCODILES, GAVIALS - Order Crocodylidae**  
All species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.
- SNAKES - Order Serpentes**  
All venomous species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.
- GILA MONSTERS, BEADED LIZARDS AND EGGS - Family Helodermatidae**  
All species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.
- TURTLES - Order Testudinidae**  
All species prohibited except under permit of the Department of Natural Resources.
- ORDER PRIMATES**  
Members of all families except *Homiinidae* (man) prohibited except under permit of the Department of Human Resources.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
PET SHOP INSPECTION  
CHECKLIST

Inspectors should check each item. Comments should be placed on the last page.

NAME OF BUSINESS

ADDRESS

CITY

ZIP

DATE OF INSPECTION

TIME

(a.m.) (p.m.)

WATER

Yes No

- (1) Does the drinking water and do the containers appear clean and adequate?

Drinking water containers shall be placed in cages and pens in such a way that contamination can be minimized. Excessive algae or left-over food in or on the containers is not acceptable. If containers can be fastened on the side of a cage, then this should be accomplished.

SANITATION

- (2) Do pens, cages, and other enclosures appear to be clean?

Pens, cages, and other enclosures shall not be classed as clean unless they are free of trash, old left-over food, filth and extraneous materials. Merely flushing a cage with water and allowing the refuse to remain outside the cage is not acceptable. Floors should be periodically scrubbed.

- (2) Are the methods of cleaning satisfactory?

Methods of cleaning shall not be classed as satisfactory unless the establishment is clean at the time of inspection. Waste products shall be removed once a day or more frequently if necessary. Cleaning shall take place so that the establishment is in a presentable condition during visiting hours. Inspectors should note any drainage problems and whether or not the cage lends itself to proper cleaning methods.

- (3) Is food thrown into pens and cages when it is possible or practicable to place it in containers from which animals could eat?

The species of animal and their eating habits will determine to a degree the method which is used in feeding them. Some establishments may unnecessarily throw food into the pens in such a manner that it will appear offensive. Feeding tubes in a cage with filthy floors are not acceptable.

- (4) Is there old or soiled left-over food on the floor, ground, or container?

While it is expected that there may be some soiled or left-over food in cages and other enclosures, this shall be held to a minimum because of the bad appearance and because an unsanitary situation including odors and fly attractions may develop.

- (5) When animal excrements, garbage and other refuse is stored pending pickup, is it handled properly?

Animal excrement, garbage and other refuse shall be stored pending pickup in such a manner that it will not attract flies nor create odors. Storing waste in metal containers with lids is acceptable. Piling the waste in an open area is not.

- (6) If excrement, garbage, and other refuse is not picked up by a regular collector, is it properly disposed of by the management?

In some instances the management may choose to bury the waste or perhaps compost it. If the health department or the Department

- of Agriculture approves of such a practice and if it appears to be satisfactory, it should be accepted.
- (7) Do pens, cages, and other enclosures have any odor which you would consider beyond that which would be reasonable to expect?  
 Certain wild animals have distinctive odors which are in many instances impossible to control. Careful consideration should be given to this when judging such conditions.
- (8) Is ventilation adequate?  
 Ventilation must be adequate. There must be enough air for the comfort of the animals and circulation shall be adequate to prevent the collection of obnoxious odors.
- (9) Does there appear to be a problem with rodents, insects and other vermin?  
 Be certain to look for evidence of rodents, especially in areas where food and waste material are stored. It is reasonable to assume that there will be some insects in outdoor facilities and displays.
- (10) If the answer is yes to the above question, is there an active control program for this problem?  
 Most facilities will have some sort of an insect and rodent control program. They can conduct this themselves with the aid of the local health department or they may engage some commercial organization to conduct this work. Traps or poisons must not be in areas that are readily accessible to the public.

#### COMFORT

- (1) Do all animals that require it have a shelf, a box, or perch?  
 Most animals contained in small enclosures require adequate facilities to retreat, rest, or perch. These facilities shall be located in a manner to provide reasonably dry and comfortable areas while cages are being washed down during cleaning. The required needs of each animal are listed in the pen specifications. Shelves and perches allow additional exercise for the animals. For most birds, perches, preferably in varying diameter shall be provided to insure comfortable footing and allow for proper wearing of the nails. Improper sized perches can do permanent damage to feet and nails. Perches shall be positioned to allow adequate space. Primates usually require facilities for proper exercise; this could be in the form of swings, bars, trees, or limbs. Tree dwelling and climbing mammals shall be provided with climbing or hanging devices to simulate more natural conditions. Nocturnal species shall be provided with a sleeping box or den and allowed unrestricted entry at all times.
- (2) Do all animals appear to have sufficient room?  
 The minimum pen specifications allow the animals room to stand up without restriction, to move around freely, and to avoid standing or lying in its own excrement. More than this minimum is desirable but not required unless the animals show apparent distress. Any deviation from the required specifications due to unusual designs, pits, grottos, islands or any other exceptions must be evaluated by the inspecting officer. Most of the pen specifications are rectangular designs and the relationship of length to width is vital to the welfare of the animal. In other words, a cage that is two (2) feet excess in width is not acceptable. The reason for stringently requiring these exact dimensions is to cater to the normal locomotor and behavior patterns of the animal. Sufficient length permits room

- for exercise and adequate width provides the animal enough distance (flight reaction) to retreat from observers if he so desires.
- (3) Do the hooves, claws, toenails, beaks, bills or teeth appear to be normal?

This can best be determined by reference to visual aides and thru experience.

- (4) If animals are present that require water for swimming or submergence, is it provided?

Wholly aquatic animals do not need a dry surface.

## HEALTH CONDITIONS

- (1) Do all animals appear to be clean, healthy, free of injuries, and with no sores or visible skin irritations?

There must be some evidence that proper medical care is being administered to sick or injured animals.

- (2) Is there a facility to segregate sick or injured animals from others, from general public, and for care and treatment?

It is considered most important that sick and injured animals be segregated from public view for care and treatment. While this may be possible for certain species, it can be accomplished in many instances without too much difficulty. The services of a veterinarian should be encouraged when it appears that treatment by the owner of the establishment or his employees is not producing desired results.

## SAFETY

- (1) Do all pens, cages, and fenced enclosures appear to be well constructed with no weak spots?

Pens shall be sufficiently strong to contain the animal and must be constructed so as to protect the animal from injury and from other animals. Look for badly rusted spots, etc.

- (2) Are the floors so constructed that an animal cannot tear up the floor or dig its way out?

- (3) Are cage doors properly locked?

- (4) Are there safety devices that will maintain door security in the event the lock is opened or broken?

It is recommended that the doors to cages, especially doors to cages of dangerous animals, birds, and reptiles be constructed so that they swing into the display to prevent their escape when a keeper is entering the cage or in the event that the lock is somehow broken, lost, or misplaced. Also this would prevent the animal from opening the door as easily if it opened outward. Chains and bolt type locks are recommended as secondary devices.

- (5) Are cages, pens, or enclosures designed so that the public is reasonably protected from animals?

There shall be rails, cages, fences, and other similar features provided in all instances so that visitors, especially children, cannot come in contact with the animals. This is a minimum requirement.

Whenever a situation exists that will permit a person, especially a child, to be injured by an animal on display, this shall be classed as a critical defect.

- (6) Are signs for warnings about safety, feeding, and tormenting properly positioned throughout the establishment so as to help protect the visitors and animals?

## FOOD

- (1) Do the food preparation and storage areas appear to be clean and without unnatural odors?



There is sometimes a tendency for operators to permit the food preparation and storage areas to become filthy because the product being prepared is for animal consumption. The preparation and storage areas shall be sufficiently clean to prevent contamination by bacteria or harmful inedible substances, trimmings, scraps, fruit peels, and all damaged food to be discarded shall be stored in covered containers outside of preparation area until disposed of according to local and state sanitary codes.

- (2) Is the meat or fish kept in freezer, icebox, or refrigerator?  
It is important that meat, fish, and fresh fruits and vegetables be properly refrigerated so as to prevent spoilage from developing.
- (3) Does all food appear to be clean and wholesome?  
All foods shall be clean and wholesome. There is little excuse for having putrid food around, as practically all animals will consume clean food. Some persons may claim that a certain species will eat only spoiled meat or vegetables. Such claims should be carefully investigated with a view of determining their validity. The feeding of garbage or spoiled vegetables from produce houses should be reported. It is well to determine where meat is purchased.
- (4) If bulk food reserves are kept, are they properly stored?  
Storage area of bulk food reserves shall be constructed so as to prevent damage by rodents, insects, etc. Such food reserves must be stored so as not to create a sanitary nuisance in the area. Freezer storage where used should meet accepted standards for the proper storage of frozen foods.

#### GENERAL CONDITIONS

- (1) Is the establishment generally attractive and are the animals displayed in an attractive manner?  
This is a very important point because unattractive facilities bring forth many complaints from visitors. Whether or not an attraction has a pleasing appearance is more or less a relative situation. Inspectors will be necessary have to compare one with another in order to properly adjust their judgement. Any unattractive situation shall be carefully noted and explained under "remarks".
- (2) Are the employees experienced to the extent that they are able to handle each species in the proper manner?  
It should be remembered that wildlife cannot ordinarily be handled the same as domestic animals.

#### REMARKS

- (1) Describe all deficiencies indicated on checklist.
- (2) Describe all other deficiencies that are not included herein.  
It is of the utmost importance that this report be as thorough as possible. Specific as well as general, discrepancies should be explained in detail and any pertinent comments by the inspecting officer should also be attached to the inspection checklist. By following these established guidelines a realistic interpretation of recurring weak areas are pinpointed and special emphasis can be placed on correcting these problems.

COMMENTS:

Signed  
Title

STATE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
GAME & FISH DIVISION  
SPECIAL SERVICES SECTION  
270 Washington Street  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

APPLICATION FOR WHOLESALE OR RETAIL PET SHOP PERMIT

(A separate application must be filed for each location.)

Date 19

NAME OF BUSINESS

STREET ADDRESS

CITY

ZIP CODE

Owner

Name of Veterinarian

THE FOLLOWING WILD ANIMALS WILL BE HANDLED:

- Fish
  - Psittacine Birds
  - Other Birds
  - Mammals
  - Reptiles
  - All of above
- Signed

FEE: \$25 per shop

Return to above address

**METHODOLOGY AND BEHAVIORAL ASPECTS  
OF THE ILLEGAL DEER HUNTER**

by

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ABSTRACT

An interview study of one hundred and forty-eight admitted illegal deer hunters was conducted to determine the behavioral aspects and methodology of deer jacking activity. Through structured interviews given at individual and group sessions, the characteristics of the violator and the methods of operation were determined. The results have immediate law enforcement and information and education implications.