

# Health Check Info

## All Animals:

**Cage:** Clean Food and Water available. Enough space that they are able to move around without touching other animals. Look at the poop in the cage. Look at the animals and make sure they all appear to be healthy. We normally only pull out 1-3 depending on the number in the cage, but make sure all the animals look good! Any questionable ones should be pulled and examined very closely. Pull out as many as you think is warranted.

## Chickens, Turkeys and Ducks:

Poultry should be active, alert and hold head up high. The beak should align unless the animal is being sold as a special needs bird.

**Comb & Wattles:** Bright, Full and Waxy! Not dull, dry and full of scabs.



1 Nits (eggs) on a poultry Feather

**Eyes:** Bright, Shiny, Alert and Clear. No gray coloring or discharge.

**Nostrils:** Clean and free of rasping noises.

**Feathers:** Smooth, clean and free of Lice and nits.

**Vent:** Clean, pink and slightly moist. Mites and lice love the moisture from the vent so pay special attention to this area looking for mites, lice and especially nits! (See info below)

**Poop:** Firm, gray to brown with white caps. There should not be any blood in the poop.

**Feet:** Clear of sores, no bumble foot (infected Blisters)

**Legs:** Scales should be smooth and uniformly colored. If there are feathers on the legs double check for leg mites. Leg mites are a burrowing mite with an oval body and short legs that can only be seen with a microscope. You will see brittle, flaky or powdery appearance on the bird's legs. The scales will be raised up and there will be feces under the scales.



**Parasites:** To check for parasites part the feathers of the bird with your fingers. While doing this watch the skin of the bird for small light brown to golden lice running on the skin between the feathers.

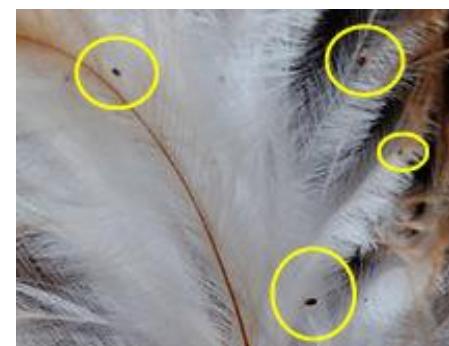
**Lice:** Check for lice around the vent, under the wings and on the back of the head



about 1 inch from the comb. Look for red irritated skin. Lice feed on the bird's skin scales most of the time red skin = Lice. Pay special attention to the area around the vent this is usually where nits and lice will be found. The most obvious sign is the white Crustaceans attached to the feathers around the vent. They can be found anywhere on the bird but are most commonly found around the vent. These are the lice nits (eggs) they start to hatch at 8 days but can take longer to hatch

depending on the environment.

3 Lice on a poultry feather



2 Mites on feather

# Health Check Info

**Mites:** Appear as black, gray or red specks depending on if they have fed or not. Red mites are blood Feeders that live in the coop and feed on the bird at night. Northern Fowl mites are black and live on the bird permanently. Mites are hard to spot, they are usually found around the head and under the wings. The Bird will show signs of weak and thirst. You will see scabby face, combs and wattles.



If you spray your glove with Permethrin and then rub it around under the feathers you should find parasites on your glove.



4 Skin Damage caused by Lice

## Cavies:

**Eyes:** Clean, Clear and Bright. No signs of cloudiness or discharge. (Milky discharge may appear during grooming this is normal)

**Ears:** Clean and smooth. No signs of ear mites.

**Nose:** Clean and dry. No sneezing, no gunk.

**Teeth/Mouth:** Clean, no sores, gunky build up or over growth.

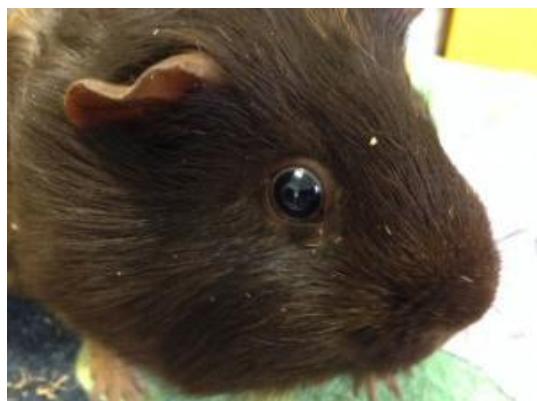
**Coat:** Clean Dense Fur, no signs of lice or mites. Pet from head to tail feeling for scabs. Go against the grain and look for lice with the flashlight and magnifying glass.



5 Ear mites on a Guinea Pig

**Bottom:** Free of sores and buildup. No feces attached. Clean and dry.

**Feet:** Check the nails for over growth and check for sores on the bottoms of the feet.



**Poop:** Oval Shaped brown or black



8 Goat Lice: Sucking  
biting lice



6 Lice on a Guinea Pig

soft  
pellets.

7 Lice on a Guinea Pig

# Health Check Info



9 Hair Loss due to lice



10 Ring Worm on a Guinea Pig

Nose	Eyes	Ears	Mouth	Fur	Fecal/Urine	Behaviour
Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
Clear No Discharge Skin Clean Ease of Breathing	Clear Symmetrical Open	Clean Inside of ear clear	Teeth Straight Clear of debris Closes easily	Clean Clear skin	Oval Shape Brown/Black  Urine Clear	Alert Active
Abnormal  Discharge Runny Sneezing Crusty Wheezing	Abnormal  Cloudy Discharge Crusty Squinting Redness Bulging Eyes	Abnormal  Crusty Skin Peeling Inflamed	Abnormal  Difficulty Eating Slightly Ajar Salivating	Abnormal  Hair Loss Scratching Balding	Abnormal  Diarrhoea  Blood in Urine Incontinence	Abnormal  Lethargic Loss of appetite

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## Rabbits:

**Eyes:** Clean, Dry, No discharge.



12 Rabbit with ear mites

**Ears:** Clean and Dry and wound free with no signs of ear mites.



11 Rabbit ear mite

**Nose:** Free of discharge

**Teeth/Mouth:** No abscesses, tooth rot, bulges or swelling. Teeth should be aligned unless selling as special needs.

**Coat:** Fur in good condition with no bald spots. Nice clear skin with no scabs, cuts or bite marks. No red irritated skin, signs of fleas or fur mites. Rub your hand along the rabbit's back feeling for scabs or bumps. If felt check them out. Blow in fur if needed, you need to see the skin.



13 Rabbit with Fleas



14 Rabbit with Fur Mites

**Bottom:** Clean and Dry. Non-irritated skin, free of poop clingons. No puss and parts in good condition.



15 Rabbit with Sore Hocks

**Feet:** Check for bald spots and blisters. Check between toes for abscesses and blisters. Feet should be clean and in good condition.



**Poop:** Soft round pellets

# Health Check Info

16 Rabbit with loose stool stuck in fur



## Goats:

**Overall Appearance:** Alert and lively, sociable and chewing its cud.

**Coat:** Should be smooth and shiny. Check for lice! Run your hand along the spine against the coat. Look at the skin. Also do this along the sides and up the legs. There are 2 kinds of lice: Biting lice and sucking lice. They are both straw color.

**Eyes:** Check inside bottom of eyelid. Healthy eyelids should be red. Pale pink is not ok. Eyes should be clear and clean with no discharge.

**Nose:** Cool dry nose

**Jaw:** Check for bumps and lumps. Feel around the jaw for abscesses or swelling.

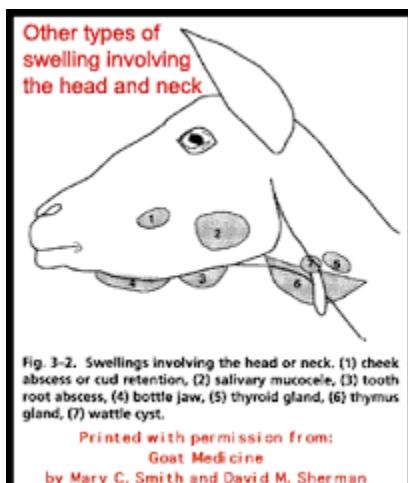
**Bottom/Tail:** Tail should be free of debris

**Poop:** Firm little round to oval pellets not runny.

**Hoofs:** Check for hoof rot. They should be shiny and dry and trimmed.



17 Lice on a Goat



# Health Check Info



## Sheep:

**Overall Appearance:** Alert and active, chewing its cud. Sheep should appear well rounded with no pot belly. (Sign of intestinal worms.)

**Wool:** In good condition with no spots missing wool. Check for lice and mites along the skin.

**Eyes:** Clear not runny, red or damaged.

**Jaw:** No Swelling, lumps or abscesses. The top and bottom of the mouth should line up.

**Tail:** If docked it should not be too short. Tail should still be visible. No poop attached.

**Poop:** Firm round pellets.

**Feet:** Hoofs should be shiny and trimmed and no signs of hoof rot.



18 Swollen jaw is a sign of worms in sheep



19 loss of wool due to lice on the sheep



# Health Check Info



20 Ring Worm on a pig's skin

## Pigs:

**Overall Appearance:** Walking, eating, alert and active. No wheezing coughing or sneezing. No swollen joints.

**Hair/Cat:** No unexplained hair loss. Pigs like to rub on anything and everything. Check for pig lice. They are about the size of a pen top. And resemble a tick. They move fast across the skin.

**Skin Condition:** Clear skin, no sores, lumps, scaly skin or hard crust. (Other than caked on mud)

**Head and Neck:** No swelling, and no signs of extended or



21 Pig Lice

twisted neck.

**Mouth/Snout:** Clear of discharge, bleeding and sores. Boars may foam at the mouth if excited.

**Eyes:** Clear of Discharge, bright not sunken in and pink eyelids. No growth on eyelids.

**Ears:** Clean and clear, no scabs.

**Belly:** No swollen bumps, should be smooth and even

**Bottom:** No swelling, discharge, sores or redness.

**Feet:** Hoofs should be hard shiny and symmetrical



22 Pig lice and nits on a pig's skin



Skin Condition on a Pig