



Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
 Division of Animal Health
 PO Box 8911, Madison, WI 53708-8911
 Phone: (608) 224-4872 Fax (608) 224-4871

Case Number: 149309



INITIAL NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE

Issued under chs. 93, 95 and 173 Wis. Stats., and ch. ATCP 10, 12, 16 and 17, Wis. Admin. Code

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|--|--|--|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| NAME RIDGLAN FARMS, INC | | DATE OF VIOLATION 6/06/24 & 9/16/24 | LICENSE OR PERMIT NUMBER 267262-DS | |
| STREET ADDRESS 10489 W. BLUE MOUNDS RD. | | CITY BLUE MOUNDS | STATE WI | ZIP 53517 |
| INCIDENT LOCATION OR STREET ADDRESS DOG BREEDING FACILITY | | CITY | STATE | ZIP |

VIOLATION(S) (DESCRIBE):
SEE BELOW

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| IN VIOLATION OF WIS. ADMIN. CODE SECTION(S) ATCP: Wis. Admin. Code § ATCP 16.20(2)(b) – Animal health and veterinary care Wis. Admin. Code § ATCP 16.20(2)(e) – Animal health and veterinary care Wis. Admin. Code § ATCP 16.20(6)(b) – Behavior and socialization Wis. Admin. Code § ATCP 16.20(6)(d) – Behavior and socialization | IN VIOLATION OF WIS. STATS. SECTION(S): |
|---|---|

Violations from 6/06/2024 and 9/16/2024 inspections:

ATCP 16.20 Dog care; general. The following standards of care apply to all dogs kept pursuant to a license under s. ATCP 16.02 (1), including any dogs that the license holder consigns to a home custody provider:

- (2) Animal health and veterinary care.
- (b) The responsible caretaker on the premises, or an individual implementing a caretaker's oral or written instructions, shall perform daily body, mobility, and behavior checks on each dog.

ATCP 16.20 Dog care; general. The following standards of care apply to all dogs kept pursuant to a license under s. ATCP 16.02 (1), including any dogs that the license holder consigns to a home custody provider:

- (2) Animal health and veterinary care.
- (e) A licensed veterinarian shall examine each dog as often as necessary to ensure adequate health care. The examining licensed veterinarian shall use appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries. The license holder shall follow the veterinarian's recommendations.

- On 6/06/2024, department inspectors observed a dog within enclosure 550/551 identified preliminarily as ZKA-8 or FZA-8 that was limping and keeping weight off her front right paw, which had what appeared to be a ruptured interdigital cyst. No documentation of the cyst was present on the information cards located outside of the enclosure(s) or the dry erase board(s) utilized to document interdigital cysts.

In follow up correspondence Ridglan stated "I believe the dog in question is actually LLG-0 and her card was in the 552 card holder spot. DOB 12Apr20. She has been receiving topical treatment and is looking almost normal." Inspectors did not observe a treatment record or 'flag' on the information card for enclosure 552 nor was enclosure 552 documented on the aforementioned dry erase board. In further correspondence Ridglan stated "Simply what happened was that an interdigital cyst was found on one of the 3,222 dogs we have that was not yet found by myself or one of our dedicated

employees. The caretakers are very diligent and caring, but they are human and may not notice every minor finding immediately."

- On 9/16/2024, department inspectors observed a dog identified as FVC-0 / inside enclosure 737/739 that was limping while moving through the enclosure, not bearing any weight on the right front leg. Two partially healed scratches and/or puncture wounds and swelling were present on the leg near the carpal joint. No documentation of the injury was present on the enclosure card or the whiteboard documenting ongoing or necessary treatment(s). Ridgland representative stated no treatment had yet been provided and the injury "probably" would have been observed today. The second dog present in the same enclosure (FJA-9) appeared to have partially healed puncture / scratch marks on the snout.

A Ridgland representative on 9/20/24 responded to a request for follow up - "The enclosure numbers for the two dogs you asked about are 737 and 739. FVC-0 is the dog that had the small cut on its leg. Today there is a small scab present and she is normal in all other aspects. I attached a picture of the healed leg. Her pen mate is FJA-9."

ATCP 16.20 Dog care; general. The following standards of care apply to all dogs kept pursuant to a license under s. ATCP 16.02 (1), including any dogs that the license holder consigns to a home custody provider:

(6) Behavior and socialization.

(b) All dogs shall have daily positive human contact and socialization, not limited to feeding time.

ATCP 16.20 Dog care; general. The following standards of care apply to all dogs kept pursuant to a license under s. ATCP 16.02 (1), including any dogs that the license holder consigns to a home custody provider:

(6) Behavior and socialization.

(d) Dogs may not be deprived of contact, activity, or enrichment under this section for extended periods, except for good cause.

- Pursuant to observations during the routine inspection (case 99107) and the 9/16/2024 follow-up inspection, department inspectors found that dogs within the facility are not receiving daily human positive contact and socialization. During the routine inspection and the follow-up inspection, injuries apparent to DATCP staff were unidentified and untreated.

Ridgland has approximately 3,200 dogs present within the facility, and approximately 16 full time employees (at the time of the 6/6/24 routine inspection, not including manager and lead veterinarian). Three of these sixteen employees' duties primarily consist of dog socialization. All dogs within the facility are not receiving daily positive human contact and/or socialization, not limited to feeding time.

ACTION REQUIRED:


Cease and desist the activity immediately.

Take the following corrective steps: Correct by: IMMEDIATELY

- The responsible caretaker on the premises, or an individual implementing a caretaker's oral or written instructions, shall perform daily body, mobility, and behavior checks on each dog in the dog breeding facility.
- A licensed veterinarian shall examine each dog as often as necessary to ensure adequate health care. The examining licensed veterinarian shall use appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries. The license holder shall follow the veterinarian's recommendations.
- All dogs shall have daily positive human contact and socialization, not limited to feeding time.
- Dogs may not be deprived of contact, activity, or enrichment for extended periods, except for good cause.

This is an official notice that you are operating in violation of the law(s) of the State of Wisconsin described above. This notice will be forwarded to department offices in Madison for review and evaluation. The issuance of this notice DOES NOT preclude further legal proceedings being brought against you for the stated violations or for continued violations. Chapters 93, 95 and 173, Wis. Stats., provide penalties for violations of the law, which are listed on the back of this form.

NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE ISSUED BY

| | | |
|--|--------------------------------|---|
| NAME COLIN BENELL | TITLE COMPLIANCE SPECIALIST | ADDRESS / CITY / STATE / ZIP 2811 AGRICULTURE DR, MADISON WI 53708 |
| SIGNATURE  | | DATE ISSUED 5/01/2025 <i>AMENDED FROM 11/08/2024</i> |
| TELEPHONE NUMBER (608) 575-3207 | FAX NUMBER | E-MAIL COLIN.BENELL@WISCONSIN.GOV |

COPY OF ABOVE NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE RECEIVED BY

METHOD OF SERVICE: US Mail Email In person

I understand that this is an official notice that will be placed in department files. Any further violations of these laws may result in immediate penalties (see back of form).

| | |
|-----------|---------------|
| NAME | TITLE |
| SIGNATURE | DATE RECEIVED |

FORM DISTRIBUTION: (Office of State Veterinarian) (Consultant/Inspector) (Violator)

Personal information you provide may be used for purposes other than that for which it was originally collected – sec.15.04(1)(m), Wis. Stats.

| LAW | STATUTE | PENALTY |
|---|------------------|---|
| Obstructing Officers | 93.21(2) | Any person who obstructs or interferes with an officer or employee of the Department in the performance of his or her duty, or who refuses to permit access or sampling, may be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned for not more than 6 months or both. In lieu of penalty may be required to forfeit not more than \$2,000. |
| Violation of Order or Regulation | 93.21(3) | Any person who refuses, neglects, or fails to obey any order, shall be fined, not to exceed \$200 or imprisoned in the county jail not to exceed 6 months or both. |
| Failure to Obey Orders | 93.21(4) | Resist or obstruct any Department employee in exercise of lawful authority, shall, for each offense, be fined not more than \$5,000 or imprisoned for not more than one year in the county jail or both. |
| Rabies | 95.21(10) | Failure to obtain rabies vaccination: forfeiture of not less than \$50 nor more than \$100 Refusal to comply with orders or quarantines: fine of not less than \$100, nor more than \$1000, or imprisoned not more than 60 days or both. Other violations: forfeiture of up to \$50. |
| Animal Markets | 95.68(9), | Conducting business after revocation: fine of not less than \$500, nor more than \$1,000 or imprisoned not to exceed 6 months or both |
| Animal Dealers | 95.69(9) | Conducting business after revocation: fine of not less than \$500, nor more than \$1,000 or imprisoned not to exceed 6 months or both |
| Animal Truckers | 95.71(9) | Conducting business after revocation: fine of not less than \$500, nor more than \$1,000 or imprisoned not to exceed 6 months or both |
| All other violations of law or department orders under ch. 95, Stats. | 95.99(1) | First offense: fine of not more than \$1,000; subsequent offense fined not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000, or imprisoned not more than 6 months or both |
| | 95.99(2) | Injunction restraining violation of Statute or Rule |
| | 95.99(3) | First offense: forfeiture of not less than \$200, nor more than \$5,000; 2 nd or subsequent offense within 5 years, forfeiture not less than \$400 nor more than \$5,000 [in lieu of criminal penalty under (1)] |
| Operating without a license | 173.41(15)(a) | May be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned for not more than 9 months or both |
| All other violations under ch. 173, Stats. | 173.41(15)(b)(1) | Forfeiture of not more than \$1,000 for the first offense and not less than \$200.00 nor more than \$2,000 for subsequent offense within 5 years |
| Expenses for Care | 173.41(15)(c) | May be ordered to pay the expenses of caring for dogs removed from possession because of mistreatment |

In addition to the above, the division may seek action against any license or registration you hold at the department.