



The Office *for the* Environment & Infrastructure

ANIMALS KEPT IN GREENHOUSES

Concerns are regularly raised by a local animal welfare organisation about the welfare of animals and birds kept in greenhouses during warm weather. The States Veterinary Officer has issued the following advice:

1. Place maximum and minimum thermometers in places close to where animals and birds are kept to monitor environmental temperature.
2. At temperatures above 24°C there is a risk of heat stress in animals, at temperatures above 30°C there is a risk of heat stress in fowl.
3. If the greenhouse is humid the risk of heat stress increases.
4. Ensure that the green house has working facilities to regulate the internal environmental temperature, e.g. lights, lime wash, fans etc.
5. All animals must have access to shade, canopies of leaves provided by plants are ideal. Did you know that fig trees were planted next to pig sties in Guernsey primarily to provide the pigs shade in the summer?
6. All animals must have access to clean drinking water at all times and remember animals require much larger volumes of water in warm weather.
7. Where animals are kept in groups multiple water sources must be available in case of spillage or guarding of the resource preventing access to other animals.
8. Animals must be checked twice a day but in warm weather make a check during the hottest part of the day and inspect for signs of heat stress such as panting.
9. If there is evidence that animals and birds are suffering with heat stress take measures to reduce the environmental temperature and if necessary seek timely veterinary attention.

For further information contact the States Veterinary Officer at Agriculture, Countryside and Land Management Services on 01481 234567 or by email at svo@commerce.gov.gg

Raymond Falla House, PO Box 459, Longue Rue, St Martin's, GY1 6AF
Telephone: +44 (0) 1481 234567 | Website: www.gov.gg | Email: agriculture@gov.gg