

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER!

- ◆ Education and knowledge is the key to understanding an animals needs.
- ◆ Animals are sentient creatures, which means they are capable of perceiving and feeling. They deserve our consideration and protection.
- ◆ Different animals have different needs. Information and knowledge concerning their care and welfare is easily obtained
- ◆ Neglect can take different forms;
 - ◆ from blatant cruelty or,
 - ◆ subtle unintentional indifference or,
 - ◆ ignoring someone else's cruel acts.

Once we are aware of abuse to any living being, it is our moral duty to speak up, even if it is done anonymously.

The Five Freedoms

Internationally accepted standards for the keeping and managing of animals.

- ◆ Freedom from Hunger, Thirst and Malnutrition
- ◆ Freedom from Discomfort
- ◆ Freedom from Pain, Injury and Disease
- ◆ Freedom to Express Normal Behavior
- ◆ Freedom from Fear and Distress

*Promoting Compassion,
Encouraging Responsibility*



The Five Freedoms for the Care of Animals



CAYMAN ISLANDS
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
working together, growing together

P.O. Box 459 KY1-1106
#181 Lottery Road
Lower Valley
(345) 947-3090
www.doa.gov.ky

The Five Freedoms

Are basic principles of an animals welfare when under the care of a person.

These "Freedoms" were developed in 1965 and formalized in a 1979 press statement by the "UK Farm Animal Welfare Council. Since then, these have been adopted internationally by organizations who advocated for the prevention of cruelty to animals.



Freedom from Hunger & Thirst

 By ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigor.

- ◆ All animals need a balanced, nutritious diet which is appropriate for their species.
- ◆ All animals need to have unlimited access to fresh drinking water. Important in hot climates like the Cayman Islands.

A veterinarian can provide advice on how much and what type of food an animal requires.



Freedom from Discomfort

By providing a suitable environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area.

- ◆ A clean, safe environment is important to keep an animal healthy and contented.
- ◆ This includes shelter for protection from the elements and an area of comfort for rest.



Freedom from Pain, Injury & Disease

By prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment.

- ◆ Animals should be observed and inspected daily.
- ◆ Animals should be provided with immediate veterinary care when injured or showing signs of sickness or disease.
- ◆ External and internal parasite control is to be exercised on a continual basis for all types of animals in the Cayman Islands due to the tropical climate.

A veterinarian can advise you to the best course of action in the prevention of sickness and disease.



Freedom to Express Normal Behaviour

By providing sufficient space, proper facilities and companionship of animals of its own kind or that of its handler.

All animal species have normal, instinctual behaviors which they should be free to express. Whether it is in play, the need to exercise, graze, bathing or being content in the company of its own kind. Denying an animal sufficient space, proper environment and companionship will adversely affect both its mental and physical health.



Freedom from Fear & Distress

 By ensuring conditions that avoid mental suffering.

All animals deserve to enjoy a positive psychological state. Proper management of the other four freedoms is essential to avoid putting an animal in fear and distress. An animal should not endure any unnecessary conditions and treatment which inflict mental and physical suffering.

