

CONDITIONS FOR THE KEEPING OF OSTRICHES

Note: These Conditions may be altered by the Council at any time.

Note: The onus will be on the applicant to obtain all necessary planning consents.

General Conditions

1. The unit shall be sited on light well drained land which is not subject to flooding. It shall not be in an area subject to extreme climatic conditions or in an area which cannot sustain adequate grazing which would lead to competition for food. An area of no less than 1/4 acre (1,011 square metres) shall be provided.
2. There shall be access to a plentiful supply of fresh, clean water and a supply of suitable grit available at all times.
3. Ostriches shall be inspected at least twice daily.
4. Excepting the need of isolation in case of disease or injury ostriches shall not be kept on their own and shall be able to see other ostriches or general activity to prevent boredom.
5. Paddocks shall be provided with means such as baffles where a subordinate bird can seek refuge from a dominant bird.
6. Paddock design shall be such that an aggressive bird can be adequately and safely fed, watered and managed.
7. Signing shall be present to warn the public of the presence of dangerous animals and details of a contact shall be displayed and at least one responsible person capable of handling the birds shall be available at all times.
8. Records of sickness injury or death shall be kept and available for inspection by an officer or veterinary surgeon authorised by Hambleton District Council.
9. To avoid aggressive behaviour breeding birds shall be kept in colonies and unless circumstances of an exceptional nature exist trios of birds shall not be permitted.

Fencing Requirements

10. Fencing shall be within a minimum of 1.5/1.8 metres high and shall be highly visible to the birds.
11. The fencing shall consist of horizontal high tensile wires 300mm apart or chain link mesh of a size which will prevent a bird's head or legs becoming trapped.
12. The fence shall be constructed to withstand an impact from a running bird but resilient enough so as not to injure the bird on impact and where two paddocks are adjacent shall prevent the birds from being able to fight through the fence.
13. There shall be no sharp edges or protruding parts on any part of the fence and corners shall be rounded or baffled to avoid trapping points and collision problems.
14. A suitable race (crush) shall be provided for routine handling and veterinary inspection.
15. A 430mm - 600mm gap shall be provided below the bottom strand of wire or rail of the fence to enable easy escape of staff from the enclosure.

Provision of Shelter

16. Dry shelters shall be provided in all enclosures to enable birds to be protected from inclement weather. The shelters shall be designed to enable all birds within an enclosure to be accommodated at any one time. Consideration should be given to the age, sex and weight of birds which will be accommodated within the shelter.
17. Each shelter shall be so constructed as to avoid birds standing in mud and accumulations of faeces and have a minimum ceiling height of 3 metres where adult birds are to be accommodated.

Record Keeping

18. The licence holder must provide and maintain a register of all birds and eggs received onto the premises containing the following details:-
 - a) Name of person and address of premises from which the birds or eggs were despatched.
 - b) Number and date of issue of Dangerous Wild Animal Licence for the premises from where the birds or eggs were despatched.
 - c) Name and address of local authority issuing licence for the premises from where the birds or eggs were despatched.
 - d) Number of birds and eggs received and date of receipt.
 - e) Name of person and address of premises to which any birds or eggs are despatched.
 - f) Number and date of issue of Dangerous Wild Animals Licence for the premises to where the birds or eggs are despatched.
 - g) Name and address of local authority issuing licence for the premises to where the birds or eggs are despatched.
 - h) Number of birds and eggs despatched and date of despatch.
Note: If the birds or eggs are returned to the originating premises then details for return in the register can be entered "As Originating Farm".
19. The register details be kept for a period of 18 months from the date of entry and the register be made available on request to an authorised officer or veterinarian employed by the authority.