



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Animal Care

Eastern Region
2568-A Riva Road
Suite 302
Annapolis, MD 21401-7400

W. A. Lindsay, D.V.M.
Feld Entertainment, Inc.
4631 County Highway A
Oregon, WI 53575

TO: Richard
Julie
Jim Williams
FR: Joan
bye

July 7, 1998

Dear Dr. Lindsay,

We have reviewed the current situation with Benjamin and Shirley's possible exposure to tuberculosis from Mala. We feel it would be appropriate for Benjamin and Shirley to continue to travel with the circus provided that they are cultured by the three sample method every other month for one year and provided that all cultures remain negative. This decision was made in consultation with veterinary tuberculosis experts and epidemiologists, and is based on the fact that:

- Both animals had thoracic radiographs on June 14, 1998 which show no evidence of disease,
- Both animals had negative tuberculosis cultures in October 1997 and ancillary testing (fluorochrome stain/amplified direct) on June 14, 1998, and
- Both animals had only brief, sporadic contact with Mala over the last 12 months.

Any change in the health status of these animals could result in a withdrawal of the variance and we reserve the right to reevaluate the situation if new information becomes available.

At present Mala is the only elephant known to be infected. We are considering all of Roman Schmitt's other elephants (Josky, Minyak, Sid, Vance, Sally, and Birka) to have been exposed in the last 12 months and to be Group C animals. We are also considering Kelly Ann to be a group C animal based on her periodic contact with Mala in the last 12 months. The rest of the elephants at the compound are considered to be group B animals and must be tested quarterly.



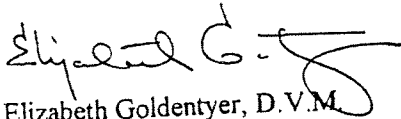
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We appreciate the opportunity to work with you during this difficult period for the benefit of the elephants.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Goldentyer, D.V.M.
Eastern Regional Director
Animal Care

cc:

✓Joan Galvin, Feld Entertainment, Inc.
Dr. Coffman, State Veterinarian, FL
Dr. Brandes, VMO, FL
Dr. Brignole, Veterinary Services, FL
Dr. DeHaven, Animal Care

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