

Housing of Birds at the Bird Market Vogelweelde

Birds must be offered in cages that are appropriate for their species and must be healthy. Vogelweelde conducts checks on this matter with various teams under the supervision of a veterinarian.

What does a market inspector check?

1. **Fresh water and/or fruit available for the birds:** This should be appropriate for the species of the bird.
2. **Feed available for the birds:**
 - It must be visible and sufficient.
 - Special feed for specific species (e.g., Lories).
3. **Health:** Birds should not be sick, damaged, or dirty. Dead birds must be removed immediately (not placed under the table).
4. **Bird of prey, owls, quails, pigeons, and all types of waterfowl, as well as non-independent birds, are not allowed.** Some birds may be allowed under specific conditions (CITES birds).
5. **European cultural birds and their hybrids must have a closed leg ring.** The leg ring must comply with the applicable rules
6. **Housing:** Below are the guidelines that the market inspector may use when carrying out their duties:
 - Cages must be clean and intact, and appropriate for the species of bird being housed.
 - Birds must NOT be placed under the stall. Empty cages may be placed under the stall.
 - Birds cannot be sold from open trays, nor can they be stored in such a manner.
 - The height of the cage must be such that the bird can stand upright. There must be sufficient perches for the birds: all birds must be able to sit on a perch.
 - Ideally, two birds should be housed per cage, taking into account the size of the birds in relation to the cage dimensions. If this is deviated from, the following conditions apply:
 - **TT-cage:** a maximum of two birds, up to the size of a budgerigar or canary.
 - **Large tropical cage:** a maximum of 4 Neophema or birds of a similar size.
 - Cages must be closed on at least 3 sides. Open wire cages are not permitted.
 - If cages of a different size and model are used, the number and size of the birds, in relation to the cage they are housed in, will be the determining factor. Based on this, the quality inspector will either approve or disapprove of the housing method. This is at the discretion of the quality inspector, who will apply the above rules in their assessment.

By overseeing the quality of the birds and their housing, we ensure that the market remains attractive, clean, and healthy. This is not only in the interest of the birds but also for the bird enthusiasts. Vogelweelde Bird Market endorses the rules of the **NBVV Quality rules**.