

Subject: accreditation status of Ridglan Farms in Blue Mounds, Wisconsin

Dear AAALAC Council on Accreditation,

I am writing to formally request an immediate investigation into the accreditation status of **Ridglan Farms** in Blue Mounds, Wisconsin. As an AAALAC-accredited institution, Ridglan Farms is expected to not only meet minimum legal requirements but to "demonstrate a commitment to responsible animal care and use". Recent legal findings and documented evidence indicate that this facility is in severe violation of the standards set forth in the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*.

I urge you to review the following evidence, which directly contradicts AAALAC's mission of humane treatment:

- **Failure to Provide Adequate Veterinary Care:** A local judge recently found probable cause for felony animal cruelty at Ridglan Farms. The Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board has confirmed that non-veterinarians performed invasive "cherry eye" surgeries on dogs without anesthesia or post-care pain treatment—a practice that fails to meet professional standards of care.
- **Sanitation and Disease Control:** On March 15, 2026, twenty-two beagles rescued from the facility all tested positive for *Giardia*, an intestinal parasite caused by unsanitary and crowded conditions. This indicates a systemic failure in husbandry and hygiene management.
- **Psychological Well-being and Socialization:** Documented reports show beagles at Ridglan suffering from extreme psychological distress, including stereotypic "spinning" behaviors caused by 24/7 confinement in windowless warehouses without environmental enrichment.
- **Admission of Non-Compliance:** Ridglan Farms has recently agreed to surrender its state breeding license by July 1, 2026, to avoid criminal prosecution for these very issues.

AAALAC accreditation is viewed by the public and the research community as a "seal of excellence." Allowing Ridglan Farms to maintain this status despite confirmed acts of cruelty and a pending license surrender undermines the integrity of your organization.

I request that AAALAC conduct an unannounced site visit and move to **revoke Ridglan Farms' accreditation** immediately to ensure accountability for the hundreds of dogs remaining on-site.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Your City, State]