

Special reduced admission to Busch Gardens Bird Parks located in Los Angeles, Calif., Williamsburg, Virginia, and Tampa, Florida, are now available. Busch Gardens' Friendly Eagle Club has extended this discount privilege to all individual members of the American Federation of Aviculture and their families. Visitors to the park will see many interesting varieties of Gamebirds, Birds of Prey, Psittacine, Waterfowl, and softbilled birds. In addition, trained Cockatoos and Macaws perform periodically during the day for the entertainment of the parks' guests.

Special discounts to Sea World's Dolphin Club members will be available through A.F.A. also. Sea World's three locations, California, Ohio, and Florida, will offer reduced prices for admission, hotels, and Inn's in the area.

Friendly Eagle Club Cards and Sea World's Dolphin Club Cards will be mailed to all individual A.F.A. members.

Other amusement discount card memberships will be added in the near future.

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F.A.A. TIE DOWN RULES GO INTO EFFECT

On October 18, 1975 the Federal Aviation Administration's new tie down rules, regarding the air shipment of all containerized animals, will go into effect.

The new regulations first appeared as a proposal of rule-making in the Federal Register, March 11, 1974, as the culmination of a study on the humane treatment of animals in transit. A review of reports of death or injury to animals being shipped by air indicated that "... In some instances animal containers were not secured, permitting the container to shift during flight and ground operations. In other instances, other cargo was not always tied down securely, creating a risk that shifting bags or boxes might crush an animal container or block off the animal's air supply" according to a report by the Committee on Government Operations of the U.S. House of Representatives.

After reviewing more than 150 public comments on the proposal, the FAA on August 9, 1974 adopted the following: Sec. 121.288 Carriage of Live Animals in Containers in Cargo Compartments.

No certificate holder may carry a live animal in a container in a cargo compartment unless the container is:

- (a) Securely attached to the cargo compartment in a manner that prevents shifting:
- (b) Protected by use of webbing, partitions, or other means that prevent crushing or other damage to the container by other cargo in the cargo compartment under all normally anticipated flight and ground conditions; and
- (c) Located in the cargo compartment in a manner that assures that ventilation areas of the container are not obstructed.

The new regulations are general in nature, yet are a common sense approach to the shipment of animals. Many carriers were routinely following the above procedures, however, now ALL carriers will be required to do so.

Scheduled to go into effect in February of this year, the recent extension to October 18th, will allow time for public hearings, to resolve problems the airlines expect to encounter in complying with the new law. The additional eight months will provide the airlines the necessary flexibility to insure uninterrupted freight service for live animals.

Continuing study will be carried on to determine the necessity of FAA requirements concerning shipping carton dimensions, minimum food and water supply, veterinary care, and cargo compartment temperatures, according to the Federal Register.

A close watch will be kept on any forthcoming proposals from the FAA which would affect aviculturists.