

	Title: Pest Control Procedures	SOP #	AV 20-103
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Standard Operating Procedure

1. Purpose

To prevent and control the entrance of pests and predators and eradicate infestations in facilities housing research and teaching animals.

The Animal Welfare Act, the Public Health Service Policy, the ILAR *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*, and the *Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Agriculture Research and Teaching* require a pest control program as a component of the animal care program.

2. Scope

All units housing laboratory or teaching animals must have standard operating procedures on pest control.

3. Responsibilities

Program Directors or Department Chairs of units housing laboratory or teaching animals must ensure that standard operating procedures are in place for the control of pests in animal housing and animal use areas.

4. Procedure

Building design, construction and maintenance are the primary components to preventing entrance of potential pests into animal areas.

- All units must ensure that windows, doors and exterior walls are sealed to prevent entrance of pests and predators. Interior walls, drains and vents must be checked for cracks and leaks and repaired as needed.
- Campus Services must be contacted when repairs are needed that require their services.
- Facilities shall be kept free of clutter, unnecessary storage of equipment, and trash to prevent the harborage of pests. Keep cardboard boxes, feed bags, etc. off of the floor.

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Animal units are required to develop pest control standard operating procedures specific to their pest control needs. A regularly scheduled and documented program of control and monitoring should be implemented.

- Facility managers or designee must coordinate pest control procedures with Campus Services as needed to minimize harmful effects to the integrity of building and equipment construction as well as to ensure the safety of students and staff.
- Principal Investigators and animal care staff must be consulted before ANY pesticides or other substances will be used in animal areas or around caging, food or other items that will contact the animals in order to prevent any effects or unintended consequences that could affect animal health or the research experiments.
- When necessary for the prevention or control of potential risks associated with pests and predators, nontoxic substances and live traps can be utilized.
 - Any traps should be humane.
 - Glue traps are strongly discouraged.
 - Live and lethal (e.g., snap) traps must be checked daily.
 - Live trapped animals found by animal care staff should not be handled and should be quickly euthanized according to the current AVMA Guidelines for Euthanasia of Animals.
 - Contact the Attending Veterinarian for euthanasia.
 - Euthanasia must be completed on the day the animal is discovered by the Animal Care Staff in the live trap.
 - Dead or euthanized trapped animals may be disposed of in the regular trash unless signs of disease are present. If signs of disease are present, the carcass should be disposed of in the biohazard waste.
 - Proper protective equipment must be worn when handling wild rodents.
 - Disposable gloves, lab coat or coveralls, and a mask.
- Use of commercial or regulated pesticides and aerosolized products requiring special applicators such as a back pack should be done in consultation with Campus Services and should only be used when other preventive or control methods are unsuccessful.
 - These pesticides, when used indoors, must be documented.
 - Principal Investigators must also be aware of and agree on any commercial or regulated pesticides used in animal areas or around caging, food or other items that will contact the animals.

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Facility managers or designees must be appropriately trained on pest control procedures and proper implementation of pest control methods.

5. *References*

1. Institute of Laboratory Animal Resources: Guide for the Care and use of Laboratory Animals, National Academy Press, Eighth Edition (http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12910).
2. Animal Welfare Act and Animal Welfare Regulations. United States Department of Agriculture (https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/downloads/Animal%20Care%20Blue%20Book%20-%202013%20-%20FINAL.pdf).
3. National Institutes of Health: Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/references/phspol.htm>).
4. The Federation of Animal Science Societies: Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Research and Teaching, 3rd Edition, 2010 (http://www.fass.org/docs/agguide3rd/Ag_Guide_3rd_ed.pdf).
5. AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals: 2013 Edition (<https://www.avma.org/KB/Policies/Documents/euthanasia.pdf>).

6. *Definitions*

1. AWA – Animal Welfare Act – requires that minimum standards of care and treatment be provided for certain animals bred for commercial sale, used in research, transported commercially, or exhibited to the public
2. PHS – Public Health Service – establishes guidelines for the proper care of animals to be used in research
3. ILAR – Institute for Laboratory Animal Research – provides the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* to assist institutions in caring for and using animals in ways judged to be scientifically, technically, and humanely appropriate
4. AV – Attending Veterinarian – responsible for the health and well-being of all laboratory animals used at the institution

Revision	Author	Revisions Made	Effective Date	Approval
1	Cindy Elston	• New SOP	5/31/16	Cindy Elston (AV)
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