



OFFICE OF LABORATORY ANIMAL CARE

Working Instructions

WIN Number:	104	Tuco Tuco Health Check	Revision #:	0
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PROCEDURE

All work instructions must be demonstrated by the trainer and performed by the trainee.

1. Perform health check in the morning (including weekends and holidays) unless instructed otherwise by the Facility Supervisor or Veterinarians.
 - a. Check "Special Service Requests" posted on the back of the door before beginning husbandry duties.
 - b. Record room temperature and humidity on a daily checklist if applicable and report to the Facility supervisor or assistant supervisor if values are out of range and document communication in the "Notification of Facility Issues". (Reset Hygrometer)
 - c. Ensure all structures and tunnels are secure.
 - d. Verify that the PI maintained logs was signed off the day prior
2. Assess every cage for health abnormalities, use a flashlight when necessary.
 - a. Use a step stool for mid and high-level cages/enclosures.
 - b. Check the perimeter of the room for any escaped animal(s).
 - c. Lower cages can be visualized by either removing the cage from the rack or by kneeling on knees.
 - c. All health concerns should be marked with a pink health check Post-it® and enter into OLAC approved reporting software. If it is an urgent health concern also report via "Health USDA" slack group.

<u>Non-Emergency Health Concerns</u>	<u>Emergency Health Concerns</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Low Body Condition/Thin Body● Hunched posture & scruffy (ruffled) fur: With normal activity level● Malocclusion: Misaligned or overgrown teeth● Dermatitis: Inflamed/irritated skin or skin lesions● Fighting/Minor fight wounds: animals observed fighting and/or pinpoint lesions● Necrotic digits: Digits (fingers/toes) appear discolored● Masses or swelling: Anywhere on the body, with no open wounds● Microphthalmia/Anophthalmia: Small/absent eye● Eye conditions: Swelling, discharge, discoloration, or bulging● Gait/Locomotion: Problems moving around normally, staggering, or limping● Head tilt: Head is tilted to one side and/or animal is rolling or circling.● Abnormal skin color: Yellow, blue or pale● Drooling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Hunched posture & scruffy (ruffled) fur: With no/low activity level● Moribund: Near death● Breathing problems: Exaggerated, increased or decreased breathing● Paralysis: Complete loss of use of one or more limbs● Dystocia: Problems or difficulty giving birth● Seizure: May lay on side and paddle or rhythmically move limbs● Severe wounds: Large or deep open wounds● Masses or swelling: Anywhere on the body, with open wounds● Prolapse (uterine, vaginal, rectal and penile): Tissue that is normally held within the body is hanging outside of the body

3. If you find a dead animal remove from the cage and place it in a bag labeled with appropriate sticker.
 - a. Put a red dot with the date and number found dead (FDIC) on the cage and enter the information in OLAC approved reporting software.
 - b. Properly label the carcass bag, by indicating PI/Lab, cage ID number, rack number, location and date.
 - c. Place the bagged carcass in the appropriately labeled bin in the Weill Hall 6th floor freezer room 638.
 - d. If the found dead is the last animal in the cage, remove the cage card and deactivate.
4. Escaped animal:
 - a. Contact an AHT/Veterinarian immediately.
 - b. Attempt to capture the animal(s).
 - c. Isolate the captured animal(s) in a separate cage.
 - d. Use the scanning wand located in the anteroom drawer to scan the animal microchip to identify the animal.
 - Use the ID to locate the enclosure of the escaped animal.

- e. If the escape method is not already known, thoroughly inspect the caging system to assess for mode of escape.

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

REVISION HISTORY			
REVISION NUMBER	AUTHOR(S)	EFFECTIVE DATE	REVISION(S)