

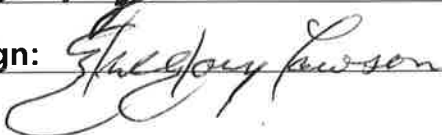




OFFICE OF LABORATORY ANIMAL CARE

Working Instructions

| | | | | |
|------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------|
| WIN Number: | 501 | Fruit Bat Health Check | Revision #: | 0 |
| Date Effective: | 6/17/24 | | Supersedes: | 0 |

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------|--|--------------|---------|
| Author(s): | Amanda Larson | Sign: |  | Date: | 6-17-24 |
| | Anthony McGinnis | Sign: |  | Date: | 6-17-24 |
| Director: | Dr. Gregory Lawson | Sign: |  | Date: | 6-17-24 |

PROCEDURE

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

1. Ensure the door to the corridor is fully closed prior to entering housing rooms from the anteroom.
2. **Health Check:**
 - a. Perform health checks in the morning unless instructed otherwise by the Facility Supervisor or Veterinarians.
 - b. Assess every cage or colony room for health abnormalities, use a flashlight when necessary.
 - Use a step stool for mid and high-level cages.
 - Lift up hanging towels in cages to visualize the bats and assess health.
 - c. Report health concerns in cages by placing a pink health check Post-it® and immediately send a message to the "health-usda" slack group with a short description of the health concern.
 - For bats found with a health concern in the colony rooms, send a message to the "health-usda" slack group.
 - d. If a health concern is found that prevents work from safely continuing (e.g., bat on floor in colony room).
 - Stop all cleaning until the bat is evaluated by the vet staff or safely isolated in a hospital cage.

This list is non-inclusive and other health concerns may arise. If unsure, always contact vet staff.

Non-Emergency Health Concerns

- Low Body Condition/Thin body
- Dermatitis: Inflamed/irritated skin or skin lesions
- Fighting/Minor fight wounds: animals observed fighting and/or pinpoint lesions with no evidence of bleeding
- Masses or swelling: Anywhere on the body, with no open wounds
- Eye conditions: Swelling, discharge, discoloration, or bulging
- Alopecia
- Scant stool or No stool

Emergency Health Concerns

- Lethargy: Bat is very withdrawn or unresponsive. May appear hunched, be reluctant to move, lying down on a cage or room floor, etc.
- Breathing problems: Exaggerated, increased or decreased breathing
- Paralysis: Complete loss of use of one or more limbs
- Seizure: may lay on side and paddle or rhythmically move limbs
- Severe wounds: Open wounds
- Masses or swelling: Anywhere on the body, with open wounds
- Damage/Loss of implant: Implants may be found anywhere on the body, but are commonly on the head
- Dehydration: Common condition caused by diarrhea and/or vomiting. Clinical signs on cage side observation include: sunken eyes (especially the underside of the eye), rough hair coat, and slow to blink
- Any frank (red) blood seen on the animal or on the cage liner
- Vomiting
- Prolapse (can be rectal, penile, or uterine): Tissue that is normally held within the body is hanging outside of the body

3. Dead Animals:

- a. Don approved bite-resistant gloves.
- b. Take a scanner located in the anteroom drawers and turn on the device. Hover the scanner near the shoulder and back area of the bat.
 - A microchip number will appear on the screen that corresponds to the bat's individual ID number.
- c. Place the carcass in a red plastic biohazard bag.
- d. Seal the bag closed (e.g., knot, tape, zip tie).
- e. Spray the outside of the bag with approved disinfectant.
- f. Label the bag with room number, investigator, microchip number, and date.
- g. Place the bag in the designated refrigerator.
- h. Notify the veterinary staff immediately via "health-usda" slack group.

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

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