






OFFICE OF LABORATORY ANIMAL CARE

# Working Instructions

<b>WIN Number:</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>Caged Fruit Bat Care</b>	<b>Revision #:</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Date Effective:</b>	<b>1/6/25</b>		<b>Supersedes:</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>Author(s):</b>	Amanda Larson	<b>Sign:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	1-6-25
	Sarah Frantz	<b>Sign:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	1/7/25
<b>Facility Manager</b>	Vincent Flournoy	<b>Sign:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	1/8/25

## PROCEDURE

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

### Setup:

1. Collect the necessary supplies:
  - a. Bat food (stored in NAF 112 walk in fridge)
  - b. Paper bowls
  - c. Paper liners
  - d. Lined biohazard trash can
  - e. Mop bucket with approved disinfectant and mop
  - f. Broom and dustpan

### Cage Cleaning:

1. Open the cage door and remove the soiled paper liner at the bottom of the cage by folding the liner into sections to contain the feces and food waste.
2. Throw away the soiled paper liner into the lined biohazard trash can.
3. Remove all paper bowls from the cage and discard them into the lined biohazard trash can.
4. Look at the tray underneath the cage and discard the paper liner if there is food debris, signs of pests and/or mold present.
  - a. Place new paper liners in the tray (if applicable)
5. Place new paper liners inside the cage ensuring the bottom is covered with at least two (2)

layers of paper liners.

- a. If the paper liners are found heavily soiled or wet, increase the number of paper liners used to improve absorption.
6. Close the cage door and latch the cage door shut.

**Feeding:**

1. Feed in the morning, unless instructed otherwise by the Facility Supervisor or Veterinarian.
2. After cage cleaning, place food in every cage.
3. **Food Regulation:** Do not feed bats with a yellow "No Food" tag placed on the front of the cage.
  - a. Refer to "Bat Cage Tag" for additional information.
4. Look at the number of animals listed on the cage card.
5. Provide the cage with one (1) bowl of food for each animal listed on the cage card.
  - a. Example: If there are six (6) bats in a cage, provide six (6) bowls of food.
6. Scoop the bat food into each disposable paper bowl and place the bowls inside the cage onto a bowl holder (located on the sides of the cage).
7. Close the cage door and latch the cage door shut.

**Water:**

1. Only provide water from the approved water containers.
  - a. Water from sinks/hoses, hydropac water, and/or NAF bottle filler is not acceptable due to potential halogens which can result in fluoride toxicity in bats.
2. **Water Regulation:** Do not provide water to bats with a purple "No Water" tag placed on the front of the cage.
  - a. Refer to "Bat Cage Tag" for additional information.
3. Check each water bottle and replace water that is less than half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) full.
  - a. Remove the water bottle from the cage and refill with water from the approved water container located in the bat housing area (NAF 155 or NAF 126a).

**Room Cleaning:**

1. Sweep debris (if present) from the housing room floor.
2. Discard debris into the lined biohazard trash can.
3. Mop the housing room floor with approved and properly diluted disinfectant.
4. Thoroughly spray carts, containers, and other supplies with properly diluted disinfectant before removing them from the bat housing areas.
5. Bring the carts, containers, and other supplies to the dirty cage wash area for cleaning.

**REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

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

## Bat Cage Tags



No Food  
(do not feed)



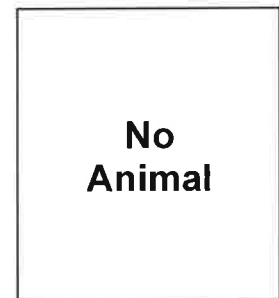
No Water  
(do not give water)



Laboratory Staff Separation  
(one or more bats are removed from the cage)



Veterinary Staff Separation  
(Animal is being monitored by vet staff)



No Animal  
(no animals present in cage)

