
Valdosta State University Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee

Standard Operating Procedure Number 020

RODENT CARE

PURPOSE :

1. Ongoing Macroenvironment Standards

- § Fluorescent lighting is provided on a 12-hour on/12-hour off cycle
- § Air changes will occur at least 10 times per hour
- § Temperature is maintained between 64 and 79 degrees F (18-26 degrees C)
- § Relative humidity is maintained between 30% and 70%
- § Ambient noise is an intrinsic artifact of the facility ; a silent facility cannot be guaranteed.

2. Daily Activities

- § Animal census and health assessments are conducted
- § Temperature and humidity are monitored in the macroenvironments
- § Food and water are provided as needed
- § General sanitation is maintained
- § Records are updated
- § Biweekly (twice per week) activities:
- § Bedding under hanging wire cages is changed
- § Trays are sanitized

3. Weekly Activities

- § Animals are changed to clean polycarbonate bin microenvironments with clean bedding
- § Floors are mopped

4. Fortnightly (Every 2 Weeks)

- § Water bottles are changed out and sanitized
- § Sinks are cleaned

5. Monthly

- § Walls of macroenvironments are cleaned
- § Vents and drains of macroenvironments are cleaned
- § Hanging cage microenvironments are sanitized