

IACUC POLICY AND PROCEDURE STATEMENT

Policy/Procedure: Non-Traditional or Wild-Caught Animal Policy

Policy/Procedure ID: 04-04-003

Effective: April 15, 2004

A. Background

Non-Traditional species are defined as animals not commonly used as research subjects. These include fish, frogs, birds that are not obtained from an approved vendor, snakes, etc. They may be acquired through pet or other supply sources or are acquired from independent individuals.

Wild-Caught species are defined as animals that are acquired by the investigator directly from the wild through some form of trapping.

Quarantine for animals not acquired through an approved vendor is required. Additional tests may be necessary as determined by the Director or Consulting Veterinarian if the species is known to be a carrier for a transmittable pathogen (i.e. Hanta virus in Peromyscus). These tests can include blood sampling as well as fecal and dermal examination. The investigator will cover all costs. Environmental Health and Safety will be contacted where applicable.

B. Policy

Investigators using Non-traditional or wild-caught animals will provide/assure the University Animal Facilities Office before any animals are brought in:

1. Any information available on the potential health hazards these animals may present to the staff or other animals of the Animal Facility. This includes temperament (activity level, biting response, handling ease) and pathogens.
2. A report to the Animal Facilities office on any husbandry concern specific to the animals that will be brought in.
3. A current IACUC approved protocol that covers the new animals. The investigator should also provide assurances to the University Animal Facility Office that the newly arriving animals can be supported through either grant or departmental funds.
4. Any special considerations (i.e., specific caging that the University Animal Facility does not possess, custom food items or diets, special husbandry care or extra record keeping) will have to be supplied by the individual requesting to house the animals through funding and/or staffing.

The University Animal Facility Director is required to assess the risk to the general research animal (and human) population of Bowling Green State University before any new research animal can be brought into any animal facility site.

5. Any permits required by Federal, State or local veterinary or wildlife control agencies must be on file in the Office of Research Compliance prior to the arrival of any animals into the University Animal Facility.