

UNIVERSITY RULE

15.99.99.M3 Use of Laboratory Animals in Research and Teaching

Approved February 15, 2000

Supplements [System Regulations 15.99.01](#)

1. GENERAL

- 1.1. All animals used in research or teaching, regardless of the funding sources, shall be provided humane care and treatment. The Vice President for Research has been delegated the responsibility for assuring compliance with animal care regulations and rules, the development and maintenance of institutional records, and submission of reports relating to the University's animal care and use program.
- 1.2. The use of vertebrate animals within the University, whether for education or research purposes, is described in Animal Use Protocols (AUPs).
- 1.3. For each project involving animals used in research or teaching an AUP must be approved by the University Laboratory Animal Care Committee (ULACC). For agricultural animals used in production agriculture and teaching an AUP must be approved by the Institutional Agricultural Animal Care and Use Committee (IAACUC).
- 1.4. An AUP must be fully approved prior to the initiation of any work, and before any animals may be acquired, housed, or used for research or teaching.

2. ASSURANCE AND APPROPRIATE USE OF ANIMALS IN RESEARCH, TESTING, AND TEACHING

The University's Animal Welfare Assurance Statement is on file with the Public Health Service indicating the institution's commitment to humane animal care and is maintained in accordance with federal regulations. This statement is applicable to all Public Health Service supported research, research training, experimentation, biological testing, teaching, and related activities involving live vertebrate animals owned by the University. This statement also applies to other institutions as a consequence of the subgranting or subcontracting of an activity by this University.

3. UNIVERSITY LABORATORY ANIMAL CARE COMMITTEE (ULACC)

- 3.1 The ULACC shall be appointed, structured, and shall perform duties and functions as set forth in the following documents or other applicable documents promulgated by Federal Government.

- 3.1.1 The Animal Welfare Act (89-544) and amendments
[\[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/index.shtml\]](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/index.shtml)
- 3.1.2 Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (National Institutes of Health)
[\[http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/references/phspol.htm\]](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/references/phspol.htm)
- 3.1.3 Health Research Extension Act of 1985
[\[http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/references/hrea1985.htm\]](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/references/hrea1985.htm)
- 3.1.4 U.S. Government Principles for the Utilization and Care of Vertebrate Animals Used in Testing, Research, and Training
- 3.1.5 The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals
[\[http://www.nap.edu/readingroom/books/labrats/\]](http://www.nap.edu/readingroom/books/labrats/)
- 3.1.6 Guide for the Care and Use of Agriculture Animals in Agricultural Research and Teaching (Located in the Office of the Campus Veterinarian)
- 3.1.7 Animal Care and Use Handbook - Texas A&M University and Texas Agricultural Experiment Station (Located in the office of Campus Veterinarian)
- 3.2 In addition to membership requirements of the federal documents, the following shall apply to the ULACC. The ULACC shall report to the Vice President for Research. Membership shall include the campus veterinarian, a representative from the Office of Laboratory Animal Resources and Research, and the Director of Compliance (Office of the Vice President for Research).
- 3.3 The ULACC shall review, approve, and provide guidance on the procurement, housing, humane and appropriate care, use and proper disposition of laboratory animals at the College Station and Galveston campuses.
- 3.4 The ULACC shall carry out all of those duties specifically assigned to it in government regulations and policies. In addition to duties mandated in government regulations and policies, the ULACC shall review all aspects of the University's animal program including short-term and long-term goals, and the University's regulations and procedures pertaining to animal care and use.

4. USE OF ANIMALS IN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

Texas A&M University and Texas Agricultural Experiment Station (TAES) adhere to applicable federal guidelines and follow the Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Agricultural Research and Teaching. Work involving agricultural animals used in production agriculture and teaching will be reviewed by the Institutional Agricultural Animal Care and Use Committee (IAACUC), which report to the Director of TAES. When agricultural animals are involved in biomedical research, animal use and compliance will be assured by ULACC.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

Principal investigators and unit heads are responsible for assuring that animal research is appropriately reviewed and approved prior to initiation of any work. Regardless of funding sources, research protocols involving the use of animals in teaching and research must be prepared by the principal investigator and must be reviewed and approved by ULACC, or IAACUC. In addition, written approval must be obtained from the appropriate animal care and use committee prior to making changes to Animal Use Protocols (AUPs) or placing orders to obtain animals. If research is collaborative or involves other institutions, approval must be obtained from each institution.

6. CAMPUS VETERINARIAN

The Campus Veterinarian shall advise the College Station campus and Galveston campus animal facility managers, animal users, and administrators on current standards for the care and use of animals in teaching, testing and research programs, and shall serve as the attending veterinarian of record for both campuses under the Federal Animal Welfare Act. In this capacity, the Campus Veterinarian serves as a voting member of the University Laboratory Animal Care Committee (ULACC) and shall coordinate campus programs for adequate veterinary care for research testing and teaching animals via consultation with campus units that provide veterinary care.

7. CARE AND USE OF NON-UNIVERSITY OWNED LABORATORY ANIMALS

7.1. Non-University owned vertebrate animals may not be used without prior approval of the relevant review committee. In addition to on-campus activity, this compliance requirement includes, but is not limited to, animal teaching, testing, and research conducted:

7.1.1. In the field by TAMU faculty, students, or staff under the auspices of the campus;

7.1.2. By TAMU graduate students at other institutions as part of the completion of a degree;

- 7.1.3. At another institution as part of a joint contract with TAMU faculty;
- 7.1.4. Off-campus activities involving an undergraduate student as part of completion of a TAMU undergraduate course;
- 7.1.5. In the teaching of TAMU undergraduate and graduate courses;
- 7.1.6. By graduate veterinarians for Continuing Education; and
- 7.1.7. With client-owned animals participating in clinical research studies.

OFFICE OF RESPONSIBILITY: [Office of the Vice President for Research](#)