



University Committee on Animal Care

Policy on Importation of Rodents into ETSU Animal Housing Facilities

Approval must be obtained from DLAR before animals can be accepted into ETSU animal housing facilities. To purchase animals from an **approved vendor** a Laboratory Animal Order form must be submitted to the DLAR office. To import animals from a **non-approved vendor or from an academic institution** a "Request for Importation of Animals to ETSU" form must be submitted to the office of the Division of Laboratory Animal Resources (DLAR), Campus PO Box 70418, at least two weeks in advance of expected shipment date.

A **health status report** for all animals to be shipped to ETSU must be reviewed by the Attending Veterinarian (AV) before animals can be shipped to ETSU. Reports older than 3 months are not acceptable. The health status report for rodents must include results of serology and parasitology testing. Conditions required for approval to receive:

- No pathogens from exclusion list (see below) in the facility for past year
- No fur mites or pinworm in the facility for the past year

If the above conditions are not met, rederivation is required. Several commercial companies offer this service. Rederived litters and dams will be quarantined and tested. The length and frequency is at the discretion of the AV.

The **shipping** of all animals must be arranged by the DLAR office to assure that a valid Animal Study Protocol exists, acceptable health status reports were received, necessary funding sources have been established, and proper housing and food for the animals are available. Only the Director or Assistant Director can authorize shipment. The AV reserves the right to refuse import of any animals with a health status that may endanger existing colonies at ETSU.

Rodents from non-approved sources are housed in **quarantine** for ~6-8 weeks. During this time the animals will be treated for pinworms and fur mites. In addition, contact sentinels will be used and tested twice for murine pathogens, including viruses, and endo- and ectoparasites. The PI will be charged for the tests. If a positive result is obtained on any of these tests, the AV will determine the fate of the animals.

Investigators will not have **access** to the animals during the quarantine period. Animals may be removed for tissue collection etc. at the discretion of the AV. **Breeding** may be allowed during the quarantine period after the first serological examination.

Approved by the ETSU University Committee on Animal Care: September 21, 2006

Revised and approved: October 12, 2021

EXCLUSION LIST:

1. MHV, Sendai, EDIM, TMEV, MPV, MVM, PVM, MAD/MAV, LCMV, M. pulmonis
2. Endoparasites: pinworms
3. Ectoparasites: fur mites