

 <p>Oregon State University</p>	<p>Laboratory Animal Resources Center</p>	<p>Animal Transportation Guidelines</p>	<p>Date created 8/24/2011. Revised 11/05/2015, 9/13/2017.</p> <p>Page 1 of 2</p>
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Animal Transportation Guidelines

Animal transporters are responsible for taking all the necessary precautions to ensure the well-being of transported animals and safety of all people involved. Animal transportation must comply with the USDA Animal Welfare Regulations, recommendations of the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, the Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals, and the AAALAC FAQ regarding *Transportation of Animals Used in Research*.

Contact the LARC office, 541-737-2263, for assistance with animal transportation: intra-institution, off or onto campus, and pertaining to field research. All methods of animal transportation must be described and approved by the IACUC in the animals’ associated Animal Care and Use Protocol (ACUP). The campus Attending Veterinarian (AV) inspects and approves animal transport vehicles. Regularly used animal transport vehicles are inspected every six months by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee.

General Transportation Requirements

- Plan all transportation of animals to:
 - Minimize transit time
 - Minimize the risk of human exposure to animal allergens and zoonotic diseases
 - Avoid animal overcrowding, stacking containers
 - Provide food and water if necessary

- Avoid temperature extremes during transport. Without animal acclimatization, special precautions or postponements are required when temperatures are below 45°F or above 85°F.

- Contact the AV to verify that animals removed from the housing areas can be returned to the same housing area. Typically rodents taken out of an animal facility to a laboratory or non-barrier space cannot be returned to the main animal facility and alternate housing must be arranged in advance of the move.

- Under special circumstances, rodents may be transported in a private vehicle. Principal Investigators must provide justification for private vehicle transport of animals in the associated ACUP.

Specific Transportation Requirements

- Animals can only be transported to facilities outside of LARC-managed space, e.g., laboratories, study areas, procedure rooms, if the PI has IACUC approval for use of the alternate area for animal work.

- Rodents may be hand-carried between buildings on the OSU campus in a filter-top housing cage with the cover shut and secured. This form of transport is limited to one-cage that can be safely carried by a single person.

- Any movement of animals to a lab site through public or common areas should be discreet and unobtrusive. Opaque, covered or shielded transportation containers protect animals from view and reduce animal stress.
- Empty cages should be returned to the designated LARC facility as soon as possible because dirty cages can serve as a fomite for disease transmission to other animals and people and may attract vermin.
- Transport of large animals or multiple cages of small animals must be done in an approved transport vehicle. This transportation must be described in the IACUC approved ACUP.
- Vertebrate animals used for research, teaching, testing, or production should NOT be transported on OSU shuttle buses or public transportation.

Shipping Animals

- The LARC Business Office is responsible for making shipping arrangements for all rodents to and from the campus.
- To ensure the safety and well-being of the animals, LARC requires that rodents not be shipped after Wednesday of a normal business week. Shipping later in the week may result in animals being left unattended over a weekend or in airport cargo containment.

Transporting Live or Dead Animals Containing Hazardous Materials

Transportation of hazardous materials poses special problems. This is significantly amplified when the material is contained in an animal. Therefore, it is important that appropriate precautions are incorporated both during the transportation and after the animals arrive at their destination. Due to the complexity of these requirements, investigators planning to transport live animals or carcasses containing radioactive materials, biohazards or chemicals from one location to another must contact EH&S for specific guidance.