

SOP #: 509.01Title: SOP - Pest Control

Approvals:

Attending Veterinarian

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Date:

10/11/12

Assistant Director LAR

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### 1. Purpose

1.1 To establish a standardized pest management program to assure the effective vermin (rodent and insect) control in all animal housing and support area facilities. This program uses exclusion and devices for their monitoring and control.

### 2. Responsibility

2.1 It is the responsibility of the Animal Facility personnel to follow this SOP.

2.2 It is the responsibility of the Animal Facility supervisory personnel to ensure compliance with this SOP and employee training for performing this procedure. All personnel must be vigilant in their efforts to detect signs of vermin entry.

### 3. Definitions

3.1 ACF - Animal Care Facility

3.2 AD - Assistant Director

3.3 AV – Attending Veterinarian

3.4 PI – Principal Investigators

### 4. Guidelines

4.1 At FIU - Pest Prevention Program has seven components:

- 4.1.1 Crawling insect Prevention
- 4.1.2 Flying Insect Protection
- 4.1.3 Rodent Protection
- 4.1.4 Occasional Invader Protection
- 4.1.5 Stored Product Insect Protection
- 4.1.6 Ant Prevention

#### 4.2 Devices – Facility supervisor ensures the following:

- 4.2.1 Insect sticky traps and live mousetraps are used in all animal rooms and support areas for vermin monitoring and control.
- 4.2.2 Devices are placed on floor along the walls or corners.
- 4.2.3 Devices are placed out of the way, but in areas that ACF personnel can reach for inspections.
- 4.2.4 Live traps are baited using standard rodent feed and positioned with entryway facing the wall.
- 4.2.5 Traps are returned to their original location after inspection.
- 4.2.6 Minor caulking and sealing of cracks and crevices, deemed to be entry points, is performed as necessary as a treatment method for preventing entry to the interior of the facility.
- 4.2.7 Light traps and glue traps are used within the ACF or feed rooms as necessary.

#### 4.3 ACF Personnel Duties

##### 4.3.1 Insect Sticky Traps

- 4.3.1.1 Inspect daily and record presence or evidence of vermin in the facility's Pest Management Logbook.
- 4.3.1.2 Note date, location and type of pest infestation.
- 4.3.1.3 Initial the entry.
- 4.3.1.4 Replace traps with a new one when insects are found.
- 4.3.1.5 Record replacement date on the top of monitoring device.
- 4.3.1.6 In the event that a LIVE rodent is found glued to sticky traps then:

- 4.3.1.6.1 Contact the supervisor immediately.
- 4.3.1.6.2 Place rodent and sticky trap inside cage bottom and enclose with a filter top.
- 4.3.1.6.3 Take rodent to nearest procedure room with a BSC.
- 4.3.1.6.4 In a BSC use mineral oil to remove glue to release animal from trap as follows:
  - 4.3.1.6.4.1 Drip mineral oil on animal's area that's stuck to glue.
  - 4.3.1.6.4.2 Allow oil to penetrate animal's skin for a few minutes until animal can be dislodged from glue without excessive effort.
  - 4.3.1.6.4.3 Place in a clean cage WITHOUT bedding but lined with clean paper towels.
  - 4.3.1.6.4.4 Decontaminate BSC with an approved disinfectant.
  - 4.3.1.6.4.5 The AV or AD will determine animal's health condition and perform any necessary procedures to recover animal when possible:
  - 4.3.1.6.4.6 The AV attempts to determine if rodent is feral or is a research animal.
  - 4.3.1.6.4.7 If rodent is feral, blood will be sent for testing.
    - 4.3.1.6.4.7.1 All diagnostic testing submitted will be directed by AV.
  - 4.3.1.6.4.8 If research rodent, contact PI(s) associated with room where the animal was found to determine possible ownership and discuss final disposition.
  - 4.3.1.6.4.9 If rodent is severely moribund, the rodent will be sacrificed using professional judgment and blood collected for testing if necessary. Carcass is properly disposed as biological waste.

#### 4.3.2 Rodent Live Traps

- 4.3.2.1 Inspect daily live traps.
- 4.3.2.2 If live animals are present refer to 4.2.1.6 but skip the removal from glue part.

#### 4.4 Facility Supervisor Duties

- 4.4.1 Notify AD when physical damage in the facilities is noticed, that could allow introduction of vermin.

4.4.2 Review monthly the facility's Pest Management Logbook for trends or signs of infestation.

4.4.3 Contact AD anytime if evidence of a vermin infestation is suspected.

5. References

5.1 Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals – 8<sup>th</sup> Edition (NRC 2011)