

SOP #: 303.03Title: SOP - Animal Identification

Approvals:

Attending Veterinarian \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 07/11/20191. Purpose

1.1 This SOP outlines the requirements of animal identification.

2. Responsibility

2.1 Animal Care Facility Personnel and Principal Investigators

3. Definitions

3.1 ACF - Animal Care Facility

4. Guidelines

4.1 Each regulated laboratory animal shall be identified with a unique marking.

## 4.1.1 Ferrets

4.1.1.1 Ferrets arriving at Florida International University are identified by an official tattoo number or an official tag. The tattoo number and or official tag number will be used to uniquely identify each animal.

## 4.1.2 Pigs

4.1.2.1 The current list of approved APHIS swine identification devices / methods includes:

4.1.2.2 Official ear tags (the method used by our vendor)

4.1.2.3 Tattoos on the ear or inner flank of any swine if the tattoos have been recorded in the book of record of a swine registry association.

4.1.2.4 Other official identification methods may be used if approved by the Administrator of APHIS

#### 4.1.3 Rabbits

4.1.3.1 Upon arrival, each rabbit shall be identified by a unique series of letters and or numbers. A permanent sharpie brand marker can be used to record the assigned identification directly on the inside skin surface of the rabbit's ear. Tattooing the ear is also an option.

#### 4.1.4 Rats and Mice

4.1.4.1 Upon arrival rats and mice are not usually individually identified. If needed, the following methods could be used.

4.1.4.1.1 Rodents could receive a metal tag placed in the ear containing a unique number. If a replacement tag is required, the new number shall be appropriately documented, and traceability to the original number shall be maintained.

4.1.4.1.2 Ear notching is also acceptable dependent upon study protocol.

4.1.4.1.3 Rats can be marked with a permanent sharpie brand marker on their tails with different colors and number of bands (i.e. red 1, red 2, etc.).

4.1.4.1.4 Rodents can be identified by using microchip transponders. Transponders are implanted subcutaneously and are interrogated by radio frequencies providing the preprogrammed animal's ID number.

4.1.4.1.5 Other methods can be used as approved by the IACUC

### 5. References

5.1 Animal Welfare Act & Regulations (9 CFR Chapter 1)

5.2 <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/nvap/NVAP-Reference-Guide/Animal-Identification/Animal-Identification>

### 6. Revisions

6.1 January 2016 - Rev 02 – added pigs

6.2 July 2019 - Rev 03 – added ferrets