INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE (IACUC).

Section 2.31 (c) (7) states - "IACUC functions. With respect to activities involving animals, the IACUC, as an agent of the research facility, shall: (7) Review and approve, require modifications in (to secure approval), or withhold approval of proposed significant changes regarding the care and use of animals in ongoing activities."

1. Protocol #11-29 involved surgery and the use of anesthetics/tranquilizers using Goats. Although the IACUC had stipulated that the veterinarian be present for the surgery, when the veterinarian arrived for the surgery scheduled on 11/17/11, the Goat was already under anesthesia. The IACUC later determined that the following deviations from the approved protocol took place without prior review and approval by the IACUC: the person who administered anesthesia was not listed on the approved protocol; the anesthetic drug regime as stated in the approved protocol was not followed; and the study endpoint was not followed as described in the approved protocol.

Per this Section of the Regulations, the IACUC should review and approve any proposed significant changes to ongoing research activities before the investigator can implement the proposed change(s) to ensure the humane care and use of the animals.

In response to this incident, the veterinarian and IACUC provided additional instruction and re-training to the personnel involved as the corrective actions to prevent any additional incidents. This item has been addressed by the research facility.

DIRECT NCI WATERING.

Section 3.130 states - "Potable water......must be provided as often as necessary for the health and comfort of the animal. Frequency of watering shall consider age, species, condition, size, and type of the animal."

1. On 4/15/12 facility personnel found deceased Peromyscus mice in several enclosures and then discovered that the connection between the rack and the water source for the gravity-fed watering system had loosened.
Inspection Report

As a result, Peromyscus mice housed in several enclosures located on the upper shelves of the rack did not have access to sufficient amounts of water to maintain hydration and had subsequently died. This affected a total of 11 adult and 30 neonatal Peromyscus mice.

Per this Section of the Regulations, water must be provided to animals as often as necessary for the health and comfort of the animal. The lack of access to sufficient amounts of water has a high potential to adversely affect the health and well-being of the animals.

In response to this incident, the research facility has undertaken the following corrective actions to prevent any future incidents: implemented new procedures, provided additional training to facility personnel, and have scheduled the replacement of the gravity-fed watering system with a new automated watering system. This item has been addressed by the research facility.

NOTE - Both of the incidents documented on this inspection report were reported to the USDA by the research facility. Exit interview held 5/24/12 on-site with facility representative.

*END OF REPORT*

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