

QUARANTINE PROCEDURES

I. Purpose/Scope

The purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is to outline Mississippi State University's procedure regarding quarantine procedures for newly arrived research/teaching animals.

II. Policy

In order to reduce the likelihood of transmission of infectious disease(s) between resident populations of research and teaching animals and newly arrived animals and to allow physiologic stabilization, all newly arrived animals from different sources/vendors and/or of uncertain health status must be housed separately (quarantined) and considered a potential source of infectious agents.

The LARAC Animal Facility Manager is the central point of contact for all orders of regulated animals used for research or teaching. The centralized animal ordering assures that adequate room for holding and quarantine is available for the animals, and that adequate preparations and precautions may be initiated. Additionally, the Animal Facility Manager will monitor the numbers of animals requested against the number approved in the IACUC protocol. No animals may be ordered until there is an approved IACUC protocol. The quarantine periods are species specific and are of sufficient length to include the incubation/subclinical period of the most common infectious diseases of the population under quarantine. The chart below lists acceptable quarantine periods, which may be changed by an attending veterinarian depending on animal source, health status, and study requirements.

When circumstances, such as a deficit of adequate housing facilities, prevent the quarantine of newly arrived animals, animals from different vendors/sources, and/or of uncertain health status, of such animals may be housed with existing populations of animals provided that both the attending veterinarian and all principal investigators affected consent to the housing arrangement. If both the principal investigator and attending veterinarian cannot agree on mixing different animal populations, then newly arrived animals may not be housed with existing animal populations before completing the specified quarantine period. In such instances, alternative arrangements must be made, which may include postponement or refusal to accept new animals (into the facility) until quarantine housing becomes available.

Species	Minimum Quarantine Periods
Mouse (VAF) from certified vendors	3 days
Mouse (obtained from non-vendor sources)	6-8 weeks
Rat (VAF) from certified vendors	3 days
Rat (obtained from non-vendor sources)	6-8 weeks
Rabbit (Pasteurella- free)	7 days
Dog (Class A)	7 days
Cat (Class A)	7 days
Horse	14 days
Pig (PRRS- free)	30 days
Cattle	30 days
Sheep and Goats	30 days
Carnivores (wild or previously contained)	14 days
Cervids (wild or previously contained)	30 days
Galliformes (wild or previously contained)	14 days
Chickens	14 days
Pigeons and other birds	14 days
Fish	14 days
Amphibians	7 days
Reptiles	30 days