



Inspection Report

Southern Biotechnology Associates Inc
PO Box 26221
Birmingham, AL 35260

Customer ID: **835**

Certificate: **64-R-0018**

Site: 001

SOUTHERN BIOTECHNOLOGY
ASSOC.

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 07-FEB-2024

3.150(a)

Facilities, general.

The housing facility for the chickens is not structurally sound and needs repair. A large piece of plastic has been adhered to the one side wall to cover the screening to provide wind/weather protection for the winter. The bottom edge of the plastic is loose and the edge appears chewed/irregular. Small pieces of the plastic material that came from/chewed off of the the large section were noted lying on the floor. A large rope net on a pole was present on the floor. The birds can become ill/injure themselves if they chew on/ingest plastic or become entangled in netting.

Housing facilities for birds shall be designed and constructed for birds housed in them and shall be kept in good repair and protect the birds from injury. Correct by February 21, 2024.

2.31(c)(1)

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).

The facility did not include a review of the facility's program for humane care and use of animals (Program Review) during the semi-annual evaluations completed on Oct. 25, 2023. The meeting minutes of Oct. 2023 stated that a Facility Inspection was conducted but did not mention a Program Review. The completed report of the facility's semi-annual evaluations to the Institutional Official discussed the findings of the Facility Inspection. It did not mention that a Program Review was conducted or the outcome of the program review evaluations. A Program Review should contain review of for example disaster/emergency planning, IACUC functions, IACUC membership, protocol review considerations, IACUC records and reporting requirements and personnel qualifications and training. In order to ensure that the facility is meeting all requirements of the Animal Welfare Act and Regulations, the facility must conduct regular reviews of their program for humane care and use of the animals. The IACUC shall, at least once every six months, review the facility's program for humane care and use of animals using title 9, chapter I, subchapter A, as a basis for evaluation. Correct by April 25, 2024.

2.31(c)(3)

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).

The prepared report, submitted to the Institutional Official, of the semi-annual facility inspection conducted on Oct. 25, 2023 is not complete.

*It describes several minor and one significant deficiency and includes a correction plan for each deficiency but does not

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USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

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Inspection Report

include a schedule with dates for correcting each deficiency.

*It was not signed by a majority of the IACUC members (signed by just the IACUC chair).

The semi-annual evaluation report to the Institutional Official functions as notification of the overall status of the facility and any identified deficiencies to the IO so that the IO can ensure that the IACUC is able to help the facility correct the deficiencies in a timely manner.

The IACUC shall prepare evaluation reports at least once every six months upon completion of the required semiannual evaluations which are reviewed and signed by a majority of the IACUC members. The report must identify all deficiencies, designate each as significant or minor and contain a reasonable and specific plan and schedule with dates for correcting each deficiency. Correct by April 25, 2024.

2.33(b)(2) Direct Repeat

Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care.

Three animals are currently in need of veterinary care.

***One female goat with an ear tag #416 was observed resting on both of her front leg knees rather than standing on her feet. When she was encouraged to move she demonstrated a bilateral forelimb stiffness at the walk and an abnormal faster gait that was described to the inspectors as 'walking horse gait'. It appeared that she wanted to delay putting weight on the front feet as long as possible. Upon further investigation, both of the front hooves were found to be overgrown and had a "snowshoe" overgrown appearance. After reviewing the program of veterinary care (PVC), the PVC states that the goats should undergo hoof trimming on a quarterly basis. The medical record indicated that the last hoof trim was on January 16, 2023.

***One female sheep with an ear tag #2336 was observed demonstrating a bilateral forelimb stiffness at the walk. Upon further investigation, both of the front hooves were found to be overgrown and had a "snowshoe" overgrown appearance. After reviewing the program of veterinary care (PVC), the PVC states that the goats and sheep should undergo hoof trimming on a quarterly basis. The medical record indicated that the last hoof trim was on September 28, 2023.

***Eight chickens were found to have marked feather loss at the base of their tail. The PVC states that chickens shall be inspected monthly for lice/mites and that these inspections shall be recorded on the animal health history record. No documentation of these checks or the marked feather loss are noted in the medical records.

After speaking with the attending veterinarian, it was determined that there had been no communication about these findings noted by the inspectors during the inspection to the veterinarian and no diagnosis or treatment provided.

Adequate veterinary care including the use of appropriate methods to diagnose and treat diseases and injuries including following the treatment plan of the veterinarian is necessary to ensure the health and well-being of the animals. Goat 416, sheep 2336 and all 8 of the chickens need to be evaluated by a veterinarian and all veterinary treatment plans must be followed. The facility shall ensure the availability of adequate veterinary care to include the use of appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose and treat diseases and injuries.

3.131(c)

Sanitation.

Multiple buildings on the premises are in need of cleaning.

*In the upper barn, the concrete floor has accumulations of excreta and food waste in corners/post and fencing abutments and on some flat surfaces that have not been removed in a while as evidenced by fungal growth on the accumulations.

*The bottom floor section of the chute in the work room is covered in hair and debris. The walls of the retaining/enclosure system for moving animals into the chute are dirty. In addition the bottom edges of the white painted wall sections are

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damaged and/or worn. One section of wood appears to be loose. Rust is present on the metal surfaces.

*The shelves and working surfaces of the work room are covered in dirt and dust. Items on the shelves are covered in dirt and dust.

Surfaces in need of repair are difficult to clean and sanitize and may lead to injury of the animals. Dirty surfaces can lead to potential contamination of the animals and the medical items used in the room along with spread of disease hazards, attraction of pests and odors.

Premises (buildings and grounds) shall be kept clean and in good repair in order to protect the animals from injury and to facilitate the prescribed husbandry practices.

3.154

Environment enhancement to promote psychological well-being.

The facility currently houses chickens. The facility has not yet developed nor documented a species appropriate plan for environment enhancement for the chickens. Such a plan is required by the Animal Welfare Act to promote the psychological well-being of birds. The plan must be approved by the attending veterinarian and be in accordance with professional standards.

The facility shall develop, document and follow a species appropriate plan for environment enhancement for the chickens that addresses at a minimum social grouping, environment enrichment, special considerations and use of restraint devices. Correct by April 25, 2024.

3.158(a)(1)

Cleaning, sanitization, housekeeping, and pest control.

The enclosure housing chickens is in need of cleaning. The walls-both solid and wire mesh types, ceiling metal wire panels and stationery wooden items are dirty and covered by a layer of dust and debris. Numerous cobwebs are located along the wire panels making up the ceiling/top of the enclosure. Small areas of accumulated food waste and excreta have collected over time in areas around the enclosure as evidenced by a layer of fungal growth on the surface. Regular cleaning is necessary to prevent soiling of the birds and to reduce disease hazards, insects, pests and odors.

Excreta and food waste must be removed from the primary enclosure and from under and around primary enclosures as often as necessary to prevent excessive accumulations. Correct by February 14, 2024.

This inspection was done with facility representatives and the Institutional Official and the exit interview was conducted with the Institutional Official.

Additional Inspectors:

Brittany Kessler, VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER

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Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
835	64-R-0018	001	SOUTHERN BIOTECHNOLOGY ASSOC.	07-FEB-2024

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000148	<i>Capra hircus</i>	DOMESTIC GOAT
000021	<i>Equus asinus asinus</i>	DONKEY / BURRO / ASS
000003	<i>Ovis aries aries</i>	SHEEP INCLUDING ALL DOMESTIC BREEDS
000002	<i>Lama glama</i>	LLAMA
000037	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	DOMESTIC RABBIT / EUROPEAN RABBIT
000003	<i>Sus scrofa domestica</i>	DOMESTIC PIG / POTBELLY PIG / MICRO PIG
000021	<i>Gallus gallus domesticus</i>	DOMESTIC CHICKEN (INCLUDING ALL DOMESTIC BREEDS / TURKIN / COCK / HEN / ROOSTER)
000235	Total	