



Inspection Report

West Virginia University
886 Chestnut Ridge Rd
P O Box 6845
Morgantown, WV 26506

Customer ID: 276
Certificate: 54-R-0001
Site: 001
MORGANTOWN CAMPUS

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION
Date: 25-JUN-2014

2.33(b)(4)

ATTENDING VETERINARIAN AND ADEQUATE VETERINARY CARE.

One sheep was not properly euthanized following performance of a nonsurvival procedure in February 2014. Following the initial administration of euthanasia solution, the animal was moved to the loading area for transfer to a disposal facility. About forty minutes afterwards, the registrant was notified by other university staff that the sheep was making sounds of labored breathing and believed to be still alive. The research staff responded immediately and the sheep was confirmed to still be alive, though it was believed to be deeply anesthetized from the initial dose of euthanasia solution. It was subsequently euthanized appropriately by research facility staff. The staff member responsible for the initial euthanasia attempt failed to properly confirm death after the initial dose of euthanasia solution, tissue collection did not occur, and therefore the staff member did not recognize the animal was still alive. The protocol did not require the use of a secondary method of euthanasia if tissue harvest did not occur, nor did it describe what was necessary to confirm death. As a result of failing to use a secondary method or accurately confirm death the animal was prepared for disposal while still alive. Additionally, research facility staff failed to recognize the sheep was still alive and only responded after they were notified. At the time of the incident, all training regarding euthanasia and positive determination of death was informal. Based on the incident described above this guidance was determined to be inadequate. Complications arising from incomplete euthanasia may have been prevented by more guidance to principal investigators and other personnel involved in the care and use of animals regarding euthanasia and positive determination of death. This incident was reported to the IACUC, the protocol was amended the next day to include a secondary method of euthanasia for animals not undergoing tissue harvest. Additionally, all staff involved in euthanasia of these animals were formally retrained following this incident. Subsequent improper euthanasias have not occurred. Corrective action was taken prior to inspection.

The inspection was conducted with the Animal Compliance and Training Officer, the Clinical Veterinarian, and the Director of Laboratory Animal Resources. The exit briefing was conducted with the Director of the Office of Research and Compliance, the Clinical Veterinarian, and the Associate Director of the Office of Laboratory Animal Resources.

Prepared By: CHRISTINA DER, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:
27-JUN-2014

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER 6068

Received by Title: DIRECTOR OF ORIC

Date:
27-JUN-2014



Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
276	54-R-0001	001	MORGANTOWN CAMPUS	25-JUN-14

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000026	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	EUROPEAN RABBIT
000015	<i>Ovis aries aries</i>	SHEEP INCLUDING ALL DOMESTIC BREEDS
000041	Total	