



## Inspection Report

University Of Notre Dame  
Grad Studies & Rsch, 511 Main Building  
Notre Dame, IN 46556

Customer ID: 776  
Certificate: 32-R-0016  
Site: 001

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION  
Date: 10-SEP-2014

### 2.38(f)(1)

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

In September 2013 a rabbit on an IACUC approved protocol died within a half hour after use and transport. The rabbit was transported in an IACUC approved transport container in a personal vehicle to a collaborating institution for use on a training protocol. The trip is an approximately 5 minute drive. Two rabbits are utilized 3-4 times yearly by the collaborating institution for about 1.5 hours, then returned. A registered veterinary technician facility employee transports the rabbits and accompanies them while at the collaborating institution.

Upon return to the facility, the rabbit was placed into its home enclosure. No significant behavioral or physical deficiencies were noted in the rabbit at that time. About ½ hour later, the rabbit was found dead. Necropsy performed was non-diagnostic for cause of death.

The weather on the day of the incident was hot. Though the personal vehicle had a working air conditioning system that was used, the IACUC determined that heat stress may have been a contributing factor in the rabbit 's death. Therefore, a new policy on animal transportation was developed. Animals are no longer transported in personal vehicles or in the old enclosure system. New rabbit transport enclosures were purchased which include individual filters and ventilation fans for each animal. A dedicated animal transport van was purchased by the facility which provides a more climate controlled environment.

The rabbit 's death is a serious animal welfare impact. The most likely contributing problem was immediately identified and the facility has taken corrective action to prevent recurrence. Handling of all animals shall be done as expeditiously and carefully as possible to prevent trauma, overheating, excessive cooling, behavioral stress, physical harm, or unnecessary discomfort.

Corrected prior to the time of Inspection

Exit interview conducted with the Director and Technical Services & Training Coordinator.

Prepared By: KERRY MCHENRY, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:  
18-SEP-2014

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER 6024

Received by Title: 7009 1410 0001 6123 8076

Date:  
18-SEP-2014



## Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
776	32-R-0016	001	DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES	10-SEP-14

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000005	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	EUROPEAN RABBIT
<b>000005</b>	<b>Total</b>	