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QUARANTINE PREMISES CRITERIA

5.3 *Live Laboratory Animals*

NOTE
AQIS advises that these criteria will be revised and reissued during 2006 under Class 7 Criteria

Purpose

Premises utilised for research of live laboratory animals

Premises Location

RefNo.	Criteria
507	Premises must be located within 30 minutes (1 hour in larger states) of an AQIS office unless: a quarantine officer is permanently stationed at the premises, the client is willing to pay for travelling time, or; the premises are approved under an AQD.

Access and Security

RefNo.	Criteria
511	The facility housing the animals must be constructed in order to provide complete physical isolation from domestic and native animals and insects.
515	All external windows must be sealed and fitted with metal security bars or mesh.
519	All openings in the walls, floor or ceiling (eg window and vents) must be screened with fine screens (60 x 40 swg mesh = 51% free area or finer).
523	The entrance to the animal room/house must be posted with a professionally prepared sign which: clearly identifies the type(s) of animal(s) kept at the facility, and; lists emergency and maintenance procedures.
527	The doors to the animal room/house must open inwards, be self closing, lockable and preferably with a viewing panel. The door should also be sealable for decontamination, if necessary, and sufficient to prevent entry of vermin.
531	Cages/enclosures must be constructed of heavy duty metal or other suitable material for the secure holding of live animals (all cages/enclosures must be kept locked at all times).
535	Security alarms should be installed in the facility.
539	The facility must be locked when unattended.

Facilities and Equipment

RefNo.	Criteria
543	The lighting and air-conditioning must be adequate.
547	All electrical switches, lights and fittings must be located out of reach of animals (particularly primates).
551	All floors, walls, bench tops and ceilings must have impervious surfaces.
555	There must be a lockable deep freezer for pathology specimens/bodies located within a functional proximity to the quarantine house / room.
559	There must be a sink for hand washing with elbow/foot/thigh operated taps.
563	In the case of primates, there must be a secure catching cage and it must be located within the primate enclosure.
567	There must be suitable closed and lockable live animal/animal tissue transport containers. Animals involved in genetic manipulation experiments are not to be used for other purposes or to provide tissues for other purposes. In addition, live animals or tissues derived from animals held at the animal house/room shall not be removed from the animal house/room unless AQIS approval has been granted.



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RefNo.	Criteria
571	If aquatic vertebrates and /or invertebrates are kept, a mechanism must be provided (top of the rearing container should be covered) to ensure that neither the organisms nor their gametes can escape into the supply or discharge system of the rearing container. Special measures will be required to contain invertebrates that can jump, crawl or fly. Specifically procedures should be implemented to enable escaped invertebrates to be detected and recaptured or destroyed. For ticks and mites, containers should be kept over trays of oil. Flying or crawling arthropods should be handled on white trays to facilitate the detection of escapes.

Waste Disposal

RefNo.	Criteria
599	Animal room/house floors must drain to a central drain. This drain should always contain water or disinfectant in the trap.
603	Floors must be cleaned daily.
607	Each room must have its own sanitation equipment.
611	Cages and cage racks must be cleaned at least once a week.
615	Bedding should be absorbent.
619	Bedding and other waste material must be removed in a manner that minimises the creation of aerosols.
623	Cage cleaning areas must be close to animal rooms.
627	The premises must be thoroughly disinfected approximately every two months.
631	All residues, packaging, bedding and absorbent material must be destroyed either by incineration or autoclaving.
635	Dead bodies, tissues or unhatched eggs are to be disposed of by incineration, sterilisation in an autoclave or by high temperature isolation before leaving the quarantine area.
639	A recommended method of solid waste disposal is by bag autoclaving, re-bagged, and transporting for incineration or deep burial. If material is bulky and heat penetration is in doubt, then it should be autoclaved, bagged again and then incinerated or deep buried. Or alternatively the waste can be packed into biohazard bags and then left in a UV airlock overnight, then removed and autoclaved before disposal.

Air Quality and Air Flow Patterns

RefNo.	Criteria
575	Air flow patterns must be such as to: prevent air from flowing from quarantine isolation areas to other areas unless HEPA filtered, and; prevent dead pockets.
579	Ventilation must give negative pressure in the lab. Inward flow is required at all times if imported animals are sharing a common air supply with non-imported animals (except in the case of specific pathogen free (SPF) animals where they would be in an isolator of SPF barrier).
583	Intake air should be 100% fresh (non-recycled to avoid cross contamination by infectious agents and to dispose of irritating chemicals, primarily ammonia).
587	Intake air should not be contaminated by: exhaust air from the facility, incinerator smoke, or; other contaminated air.
591	There must be at least 8 fresh air changes each hour.
595	Vacuum lines and air outlets should, where necessary, be protected by high efficiency particulate air filters (HEPA) and liquid disinfectant traps.



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Office and Record Requirements

RefNo.	Criteria
16	The premises must have a fully stocked and maintained first aid cabinet.
61	Staff amenities are to be available for the use of quarantine officers, including: toilet facilities (separate in the case of female officers) and adjacent to the work area where possible, hand washing facilities and a hygienic means of drying hands, and; suitable arrangements for daily cleaning of amenities.
642	Records of all goods imported through the premises must be maintained.
645	Records are to be made available for inspection by quarantine officers. In addition, these charts must be retained at these premises for a minimum period of eighteen months during which time they will, upon request, be made available to a quarantine officer.
648	Records for each consignment of goods must include: Quarantine Entry number, Import Permit number (if applicable), name and address of importer, date of arrival, country of origin, details of any treatments, method of waste disposal, and date of waste disposal/destruction.
651	A log book is to be kept, with all importations, births (or hatchings), deaths, destructions and transfers.
654	Details of post mortem results and all other test results must also be available.