

51-F-016

Exceptions to the Animal Welfare Regulations and Standards

1. Title and Section of Animal Welfare Regulations (9CFR), Subchapter A) for which an ACUC-approved exception was granted:

Section 9CFR 3.80 (b) Minimum Space Requirements

2. Description of and rationale for ACUC-approved exception:

Pair house juvenile monkeys (aged 1-3 years, weight 1-3 kgs) in standard 4.3 square foot cages. According to USDA regulations, pair housed monkeys in the 1-3 kg weight range require 6.0 sq.ft. floor space. Due to the limited availability of these cages and the need to provide suitable socialization for these juvenile animals, it is necessary to utilize 4.3 sq.ft. cages. Social contact through pair housing is imperative for maintaining psychological well-being of young monkeys. (see Final Report on Environmental Enhancement to Promote Psychological Well-Being of Nonhuman Primates. USDA, APHIS, July 15, 1999, pp. 17-19)

Under this exemption, juvenile monkeys (1-3 years of age for macaques and African green monkeys) are pair-housed in 4.3 sq. ft. cages until the weight limitation is reached. The Division of Behavioral Sciences monitors all pair housed juveniles to assure behavioral compatibility

3. Species and number of animals affected by this exception:

African green - 89  
Cynomolgus - 82  
Pigtail - 112  
Rhesus - 586