1. PURPOSE

The intent of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is to describe procedures used to prevent and control vermin in animal facilities.

2. RESPONSIBILITY

Animal care staff, animal facility manager, veterinarian

3. MATERIALS

3.1. Door sweeps
3.2. Pallets
3.3. Screening materials
3.4. Caulk
3.5. Vermin traps
3.6. Disinfectant

4. PROCEDURES FOR LABORATORY ANIMAL FACILITIES

4.1. In agricultural facilities, vermin include insects and wild rodents.

4.2. Preventive measures:

4.2.1. Consult with the institutional contracted service or a professional exterminator to accomplish the following:

4.2.1.1. Identify potential sources of vermin.
4.2.1.2. Propose a preventive plan for the facility (type/location of traps, frequency of monitoring, etc.).

4.2.2. Prevent vermin access to feed and bedding storage areas:

4.2.2.1. Install door sweeps on all feed room doors.
4.2.2.2. Store feed bags on pallets or shelves kept far enough away from walls so as to allow regular cleaning and inspection.

4.2.3. Restrict vermin access to receiving areas, loading docks and exterior doors by installing door sweeps to all doors that have direct access to the exterior of the building.

4.2.4. Perform routine maintenance on drains to prevent vermin from accessing them.

4.2.4.3. Flush drains no less than once a month.

4.3. Monitoring:

4.3.1. Inspect live trap bait stations a minimum of once a day.

4.3.1.1. Log all live trap monitoring.

4.3.2. Place rodent traps in areas of concern (i.e., feed/bedding storage, under sinks, near outdoor entrance, etc.) in all facilities.

4.3.2.1. Do not use sticky traps for rodents.
4.3.2.2. Remove dead rodents from traps by using an inverted bag or gloves. Bag and dispose of carcass.
4.4. Corrective measures:
   4.4.1. Consult with a university contracted service or a professional exterminator.
   4.4.2. Use of chemicals must be approved by a veterinarian, the facility manager and applicable PI(s).
   4.4.3. Document all corrective measures in a vermin control log.

5. PROCEDURES FOR AGRICULTURAL FACILITIES

5.1. In agricultural facilities, vermin include insects such as flies, rodents, wild mammals and birds.

5.2. Preventative measures:
   5.2.1. Arrange for professional evaluation of the facility to accomplish the following:
          5.2.1.1. Identify potential sources of vermin entry.
          5.2.1.2. Propose a preventative plan for that facility (type/location of traps, frequency of monitoring, etc.).
   5.2.2. Prevent entry of vermin to enclosed facilities:
          5.2.2.1. Cover openings and ceilings with screens.
          5.2.2.2. Seal cracks in walls.
          5.2.2.3. Eliminate vermin breeding, roosting, and refuge sites.
   5.2.3. Control vermin that have accessed the buildings:
          5.2.3.1. Limit access of vermin to feed supplies and water sources.
          5.2.3.2. If using barn cats as vermin control, ensure the following measures are taken:
                     5.2.3.2.1. Spay or neuter all barn cats on protocol for vermin control.
                     5.2.3.2.2. Vaccinate cats against common cat diseases.
                     5.2.3.2.3. Keep individual health records for each cat.
   5.3. Monitoring:
   5.3.1. Inspect live trap bait stations a minimum of once a day.
          Note: The use of live traps for rodents is discouraged. If live traps are used, monitor them daily.
   5.3.1.3. Document all live trap monitoring and subsequent actions in a vermin control log.
   5.3.2. Place rodent traps in areas of concern (i.e., feed/bedding storage, under sinks, near outdoor entrance, etc.) in all enclosed facilities.
          5.3.2.4. Do not use sticky traps for rodents.
          5.3.2.5. Remove dead rodents from traps by using an inverted bag or gloves. Bag and dispose of carcass.
   5.4. Corrective measures:
   5.4.1. Contact a licensed pesticide applicator or a commercial service.
   5.4.2. Get approval for proposed treatments from a veterinarian and applicable PI(s).
   5.4.3. Document regular or seasonal treatments per farm SOPs.
   5.4.4. Document all corrective measures in a vermin control log.
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<th>DATE</th>
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<td>4.1 In agricultural facilities, vermin include insects and wild rodents.</td>
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| 2016.09.22 | 4.3 (NO TEXT)    | 4.3. Monitoring:  
4.3.1. Inspect live trap bait stations a minimum of once a day.  
4.3.1.1. Log all live trap monitoring.  
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