
1. PURPOSE

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) describes the program for monitoring subclinical pathogens in rabbit colonies.

2. RESPONSIBILITY

Animal care staff, veterinary care staff, facility supervisors, facility manager.

3. MATERIALS

3.1. Blood collection materials

4. PROCEDURES

- 4.1. Monitor rabbit populations that are housed for more than 6 to 8 weeks.
- 4.2. Selection of rabbits for sample collection:
 - 4.2.1. Randomly select two rabbits from the population being monitored
 - 4.2.2. Ensure that the rabbits are at least 8 weeks old.
 - 4.2.3. Ensure that the rabbits have been housed with the same population for more than 6 to 8 weeks.
 - 4.2.4. In addition, sample sick rabbits, euthanized rabbits or those found dead as instructed by a veterinarian.
- 4.3. Every 12 months, submit:
 - 4.3.1. Serology sample:
 - 4.3.1.1. Collect 1.5mL of blood, centrifuge and freeze serum.
 - 4.3.1.2. Serology profile should include at least the following tests:
 - 4.3.1.2.1. CAR Bacillus
 - 4.3.1.2.2. Encephalitozoon cuniculi
 - 4.3.1.2.3. Treponema
 - 4.3.2. Pooled fecal sample for parasitology testing:
 - 4.3.2.3. Collect at least 5 fecal pellets.
- 4.4. Sick animal or animals found dead:
 - 4.4.1. Consult veterinarian for additional instructions.
 - 4.4.2. Collect blood if possible for serology testing.
 - 4.4.3. Submit tissues and organs for pathology.
- 4.5. Health status reports:
 - 4.5.1. The facility veterinarian reviews all sentinel reports.
 - 4.5.2. If there are any health status problems, the veterinarian will contact the facility supervisor/manager and investigators concerned.

SOP REVISION HISTORY

DATE	PREVIOUS VERSION	NEW VERSION
2017.01.27	4.3.1.2.1. Tyzzer's	4.3.1.2.1. Tyzzer's CAR Bacillus