



Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Animals for Research and Instruction

The Policy of The University of Georgia regarding the humane care and use of animals is to comply with the external documents listed below.

Implementation of this Policy by the University involves application of the following five documents, as appropriate, to the use of all vertebrate animals used in research and instruction.

1. [United States Government Principles](#) for the Utilization and Care of Vertebrate Animals Used in Testing, Research and Training
2. Regulations of the [Animal Welfare Act](#) as promulgated by the United States Department of Agriculture
3. The United States [Public Health Service \(PHS\) Policy](#) on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals
4. The National Academy of Sciences "[Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals](#)"
5. The American Dairy Science Association, American Society of Animal Science, and the Poultry Science Association "[Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Research and Teaching](#)" (*Ag Guide*)

Where these above documents are silent on a particular use of animals then the IACUC relies on published guidelines of professional societies for guidance to determine if the proposed use is humane and appropriate.

All proposed research and instructional uses of animals covered by this policy – including objectives and procedures – must be reviewed and approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee before proceeding. For the purposes of IACUC oversight, *animal use* is defined as the use of live vertebrates. For the purposes of IACUC oversight, instruction is defined as an activity with the intention of educating, including, but not limited to, catalog courses, outreach, and extension. All facilities and locations (e.g., laboratories) where animals are used for research and/or teaching are inspected by the IACUC on a semi-annual basis. Virtual inspections may be conducted, in place of physical inspection visits; however, at least one physical inspection visit must be conducted per facility/ location per year. The appropriateness of virtual inspections is determined on a case-by-case basis by the Office of Animal Care and Use.

Animal use solely for production purposes (no research or teaching) does not fall under any federal regulatory purview regarding IACUC oversight. However, the University of Georgia is still responsible for the humane care and use of all animals involved with UGA activities.* The IACUC Policy on Registration of Animals Used for Purposes Other than Research and Instruction outlines the expectations for using animals for purposes other than research and instruction. Where these above documents are silent on a

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*The use of animals for production purposes only does not require an IACUC-approved Animal Use Protocol (AUP); however, Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for any husbandry procedures which may result in pain and/or distress must be reviewed and approved by the IACUC. Production-only animal facilities may be inspected, at the IACUC's discretion. The "Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Research and Teaching" is the standard the IACUC uses to assess production-only agricultural facilities.