

Sanitization of cages, racks, and small equipment.

Purpose:

To describe the process for cleaning cages and racks and small equipment.

Procedure:

- 1) Dirty cages and other small equipment are transported to the dirty side of the cage wash area on trucks. Dirty racks are wheeled directly to the dirty side of the cage wash area.
- 2) Waste material from cages, litter pans and food bowls is dumped into lined garbage bins dedicated to the dirty cage wash area. Adhered material will be scraped off with a scraper to remove as much visible matter as possible. Caging and racks will be rinsed prior to being run through the cagewasher.
- 3) A respirator-type mask will be worn by personnel during the dumping/scraping of material from routine soiled caging.
- 4) Shoebox-type caging, filter top housing, wire-tops, feeders, and food bowls are placed on a rack designed to allow these items to be cycled through the rack washer.
- 5) Items smaller than mouse shoebox-type caging (such as cage card holders, water bottles, and sipper tubes) are placed into perforated crates that allow complete washing and rinsing.
- 6) Racks, trucks, and other large, wheeled caging (e.g. transport kennels) will be wheeled directly into the rack washer.
- 7) After washing, all items will be stored in the clean cage storage area(s).