

Animal Biosafety Survey

Dept. & Room: _____ **Date:** _____

PI: _____

This is the checklist that EHS uses for their annual survey. The purpose of this survey is to identify unsafe conditions and/or behaviors in laboratories where large, small, or agricultural animal hazards are present. This list is meant to be used in conjunction with the Biological Safety Survey and Chemical Safety Survey. Laboratory personnel are encouraged to utilize this survey to evaluate their work area(s) on a regular basis. Safe science is smart science.

Critical Critical finding: a safety departure that can result in personnel injury or exposure and/or environmental contamination. Non-critical findings that continue unaddressed or are found to be excessive within a work area and thus present more than a moderate hazard will be elevated to a critical finding. These findings are required to be corrected onsite but no longer than 24hrs.

Non-Critical Non-critical finding: a safety departure that presents a moderate hazard; are generally indicative of inadequate safe work practice(s). These findings should be corrected as soon as possible, but no longer than 30 calendar days.

Admin Administrative safety departure: Indicates the lack of, or deficiency in, written safety policies, rules, supervision, schedules, and / or training with the goal of reducing the duration, frequency, and severity of exposure to hazardous materials or situations. Administrative safety departures can be critical or non-critical in nature. Unless otherwise specified, corrective actions should be completed within 30 calendar days.

ABSL - FACILITIES

#	TYPE	QUESTION	YES	NO	N/A	COS
1	NC	Are external facility doors self-closing and self-locking? (BMBL-ABSL1: D1(a)) Notes:				
2	NC	Are external windows resistant to breakage and fitted with fly screens if they open? (BMBL-ABSL1: D3(d)) Notes:				
3	NC	Are floors with drains sloped toward the drains to facilitate cleaning and if open are traps filled with water and/or disinfectant, or sealed? (BMBL-ABSL1: D3(a); BMBL-ABSL1: D2(c)) Notes:				
4	NC	Are internal facility fixtures (e.g., light fixtures, air ducts, and utility pipes) and penetrations in floors, walls, and ceiling surfaces (including openings around ducts, doors, doorframes, outlets, and switch plates) installed to facilitate cleaning and minimize the accumulation of debris or fomites? (BMBL-ABSL1: D3(b); BMBL-ABSL1: D3(c)) Notes:				
5	NC	Are the interior surfaces (e.g., walls, floors, and ceilings) water-resistant and are floors slip-resistant and resistant to chemicals? (BMBL-ABSL1: D3(a); BMBL-ABSL1: D3) Notes:				
6	C	Do mechanical cage washers have a final rinse temperature of at least 180°F? (BMBL-ABSL1: D6) Notes:				

7	NC	Does the ventilation system design consider the heat and high moisture load produced during the cleaning of animal rooms and the cage wash process? (BMBL-ABSL1: D5(a)) Notes:				
8	C	Is a handwashing sink located at the exit of the areas where infectious materials and/or animals are housed or manipulated with additional sinks for handwashing located in other appropriate locations within the facility? (BMBL-ABSL1: D2) Notes:				
9	A	Is access to the animal facility restricted and monitored? (BMBL-ABSL1: D1(b)) Notes:				
10	NC	Is an emergency eyewash and shower readily available, easily accessible, and appropriately maintained? (BMBL-ABSL1: D2(a)) Notes:				
11	NC	Is furniture minimized and able to support anticipated loads and uses? (BMBL-ABSL1: D4) Notes:				
12	NC	Is the animal facility designed, constructed, and maintained to facilitate cleaning and housekeeping? (BMBL-ABSL1: D3) Notes:				
13	NC	Is ventilation provided in accordance with the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals? (BMBL-ABSL1: D5) Notes:				
ABSL - PRACTICES						
14	NC	Are eye protection and face protection disposed of with other contaminated facility waste or decontaminated after use? (BMBL-ABSL1: C3) Notes:				
15	C	Are genetically engineered neonates permanently marked within 72 hours of birth, and do transgenic animals contain distinct and biochemically assayable DNA sequences that allow the identification of transgenic animals from non-transgenic animals? (NIH: Appendix M-II-A-1-b-(1).; NIH: Appendix M-II-B-1-g-(1).) Notes:				
16	C	Are male and female animals kept apart with a double barrier or are other measures taken to avoid reproductive transmission, unless reproductive studies are part of the experiment? (NIH: Appendix M-II-A-1-b-(2); NIH: Appendix M-II-B-1-g-(6).) Notes:				
17	A	Are personnel using respirators for animal allergy prevention enrolled in an appropriately constituted respiratory protection program? (BMBL-ABSL1: A6(b)) Notes:				

18	A	Do facility supervisors ensure that medical staff are informed of potential occupational hazards within the animal facility, to include those associated with research, animal husbandry duties, animal care, and manipulations? (BMBL-ABSL1: A5) Notes:				
19	A	Does the animal facility director establish and enforce policies, procedures, and protocols for biosafety, biosecurity, and emergencies within the animal facility? (BMBL-ABSL1: A1) Notes:				
20	A	Does the safety manual contain sufficient information to describe the biosafety and containment procedures for the experimental animals, organisms, and biological materials in use, appropriate agent-specific decontamination methods, and the work performed? (BMBL-ABSL1: A7(a)) Notes:				
21	A	Has additional PPE been considered for persons working with large animals? (BMBL-ABSL1: C5) Notes:				
22	A	Has the need for bite and/or scratch-resistant gloves been considered? (BMBL-ABSL1: A10(b)) Notes:				
23	A	Have all personnel, particularly those of reproductive age and/or those having conditions that may predispose them to increased risk for infection (e.g., organ transplant, medical immunosuppressive agents), been provided information regarding immune competence and susceptibility to infectious agents? (BMBL-ABSL1: A5) Notes:				
24	A	Have worker safety and health concerns been addressed as part of the animal protocol review process? (BMBL-ABSL1: A3) Notes:				
25	C	If needles are removed from a syringe or recapped, is a hands-free device or comparable safety procedure used (e.g., a needle remover on a sharps container, or the use of forceps to hold the cap when recapping a needle)? (BMBL-ABSL1: A15(b)iii) Notes:				
26	A	Is a plan for the disposition of animals during emergencies included in the safety manual? (BMBL-ABSL1: A7(b)) Notes:				
27	A	Is an animal allergy prevention program part of medical surveillance? (BMBL-ABSL1: A6(a)) Notes:				

28	A	Is consideration given to specific biohazards unique to the animal species and protocol in use? (BMBL-ABSL1: A3) Notes:				
29	C	Is protective clothing, such as gowns, uniforms, scrubs, laboratory coats, and other PPE worn while in the areas where infectious materials and/or animals are housed or manipulated? (BMBL-ABSL1: C2) Notes:				
30	C	Is protective outer clothing removed before exiting areas where infectious materials and/or animals are housed or manipulated and are gowns and uniforms removed before exiting the animal facility? (BMBL-ABSL1: C2) Notes:				
ABSL2 - FACILITIES						
31	C	Are actively ventilated caging systems designed to contain microorganisms, have sealed exhaust plenums with safety mechanisms in place to prevent the cage and exhaust plenums from becoming positively pressurized if the exhaust fan fails, and have alarms to indicate operational malfunctions? (BMBL-ABSL2: C1(b)) Notes:				
32	NC	Is a sink available for handwashing at the exit from each segregated area, if the animal facility has segregated areas where infectious materials and/or animals are housed or manipulated? (BMBL-ABSL2: D2) Notes:				
33	NC	Is a validated process (e.g., alkaline digestion, incineration) used for decontamination and disposal of carcasses? (BMBL-ABSL2: D9) Notes:				
34	C	Is airflow into the animal facility inward with exhaust air discharged to the outside without being recirculated to other rooms? (BMBL-ABSL2: D5(b); BMBL-ABSL2: D5(d)) Notes:				
35	NC	Is an autoclave available for the decontamination of laboratory waste? (BMBL-ABSL2: D9; NIH: Appendix M-II-B-2-e.) Notes:				
ABSL2 - PRACTICES						
36	NC	Are actively ventilated caging systems, exhaust HEPA filters, and filter housings certified annually? (BMBL-ABSL2: C1(b)) Notes:				

37	A	Are animal care staff provided information on signs and symptoms of disease, receive occupational medical services including medical evaluation, surveillance, and treatment, as appropriate are offered available immunizations for agents handled or potentially present in the facility, and, if appropriate, have baseline serum samples collected and stored? (BMBL-ABSL2: B1) Notes:				
38	C	Are biological materials removed from the animal containment area in a viable or intact state transferred to a non-breakable sealed primary container and then enclosed in a non-breakable sealed secondary container and are all containers disinfected before removal from the animal facility? (NIH: Appendix M-II-B-1-f-(1).) Notes:				
39	C	Are cages decontaminated prior to washing? (BMBL-ABSL2: B3) Notes:				
40	A	Are decontamination processes verified on a routine basis? (BMBL-ABSL2: B3(c)) Notes:				
41	NC	Are equipment, cages, and racks handled in a manner that minimizes contamination of other areas? (BMBL-ABSL2: B2(b)) Notes:				
42	C	Are scrubs and uniforms removed before leaving the animal facility? (BMBL-ABSL2: C2(a)) Notes:				
ABSL2 -AG						
43	A	Are administrative controls and policies developed to limit contact between containment staff and susceptible animals outside the BSL-2 or ABSL-2 enhanced containment space (i.e., off-premises personally recognizable quarantine policy that is based on agent and species factors)? (BMBL-App(D): 4) Notes:				
44	A	Are administrative controls and policies established for a minimum of two workers to be present in the containment area at all times (i.e., a "buddy system") or other means of monitoring worker safety in containment? (BMBL-App(D): 2(c)) Notes:				
45	C	Are agent and/or infected animal manipulations performed exclusively inside a BSC (if possible due to size limitations) or another primary containment device? (BMBL-App(D): 2) Notes:				

46	NC	Are air handling systems serving areas where large animals are housed or manipulated designed to maintain environmental conditions that are consistent with relevant animal welfare requirements in addition to the need of minimizing emissions (to include particulates)? (BMBL-App(D): 1(e)i) Notes:			
47	NC	Are alternate or redundant decontamination systems and procedures available for when the primary system requires maintenance or repairs? (Examples of typical decontamination systems used in ABSL-2Ag facilities include autoclaves, tissue digesters, incinerators, and renderers). (BMBL-App(D): 1(f)ii) Notes:			
48	C	Are cleaning supplies and equipment available to decontaminate penning, gates, transport crates and trailers, and other large devices in direct contact with animals? (BMBL-App(D): 1(g)) Notes:			
49	C	Are equipment and supplies available for cold storage and decontamination of large animal carcasses, and adequate decontamination of solid and/or liquid waste? (BMBL-App(D): 1(f)) Notes:			
50	NC	Are floors, ceilings, and walls in animal rooms constructed of monolithic materials that are durable and resistant to damage from animal impact and pressurized sprays, chemical disinfectants, hot water, or steam that is used for sanitation? (BMBL-App(D): 1(h)) Notes:			
51	NC	Are pens, gates, and/or animal restraint systems appropriate for the species being housed and selected/ designed as part of a comprehensive risk assessment process performed in consultation with the veterinary staff (critical factors that should be considered include animal size, proposed procedures, and safe handling strategies)? (BMBL-App(D): 1(d)) Notes:			
52	A	Do operational protocols also require all staff to be trained on appropriate response procedures for time-sensitive emergencies involving workers pinned or otherwise entangled by equipment or animals? (BMBL-App(D): 2(c)) Notes:			
53	NC	Do surfaces and design features of penning, gates, transport crates, and other large devices in direct contact with animals permit thorough cleaning and sanitation or are they disassembled for complete decontamination? (BMBL-App(D): 1(g)) Notes:			
54	NC	Does the site-specific risk assessment determine the need to provide particulate filtration for supply and/or exhaust air systems that service ABSL-2Ag areas to prevent cross-contamination between animals on study and other animals housed in or near the facility, including wildlife? (BMBL-App(D): 1(e)iii) Notes:			

55	A	Has a site-specific risk assessment been conducted to identify local practices, equipment, and facility design features that are needed to protect workers, animals, and the environment? (BMBL-App(D): 2(a)) Notes:				
56	A	Has a site-specific risk assessment been performed to determine if personal showers are needed for personnel exiting the ABSL-2Ag containment space—at either the room level, the facility level, or both? (BMBL-App(D): 1(c)) Notes:				
59	A	Has the use of supplemental PPE (e.g., face shields, shin guards, respirators) and/or facility equipment with advanced safety features (e.g., quick-release latches, self-closing gates) been considered to protect workers and animals from hazards encountered while working with agricultural animals in close quarters and to protect animals from accidental entrapment or escape? (BMBL-App(D): 2(a)i) Notes:				
60	A	Have administrative controls and policies been established that limit contact between containment staff and susceptible animals outside the ABSL-2Ag containment space (i.e., personally recognizable quarantine policy)? (BMBL-App(D): 2(b)) Notes:				
61	C	If an exhaust system is provided, is the exhaust recirculated only to other equivalent containment animal rooms within the animal facility/barn (i.e., not to non-animal areas or non-containment animal rooms)? (BMBL-App(D): 1(e)ii) Notes:				
62	A	If composting or other non-conventional disposal methods are considered, is their use supported by a risk assessment that specifically considers the location, long-term stability, and proximity of the disposal site relative to other susceptible animals maintained outside the ABSL-2Ag facility? (BMBL-App(D): 1(f)iii) Notes:				
63	C	Is a boot wash installed at the entry/exit of the animal room or ABSL-2Ag containment barrier and is the disinfectant solution changed as needed? (BMBL-App(D): 1(b)) Notes:				
64	C	Is contaminated effluent collected for disinfection and validated for inactivation before discharge into facility drainage systems or drains to a dedicated Drain Waste Vent system feeding an effluent decontamination system prior to the sanitary sewer? (BMBL-App(D): 3; BMBL-App(D): 1(f)v) Notes:				
65	C	Is electrical wiring (e.g., outlets) and equipment (e.g., light fixtures) installed in wet or otherwise hazardous locations properly sealed and grounded with animal welfare issues (e.g., footing) considered in material selection, application, and use? (BMBL-App(D): 1(h)) Notes:				

66	A	<p>Is entrance into the facility through a series of barriers and/or procedures that provide a distinct separation between containment and non-containment areas? (BMBL-App(D): 1(a))</p> <p>Notes:</p>				
67	C	<p>Is entrance/exit into/from the facility through a series of barriers and/or procedures that provide a distinct separation between containment and non-containment areas? (Provisions should be included for removing, disinfecting, and/or disposing of contaminated PPE, footwear, uniforms, and/or equipment before exiting the ABSL-2Ag containment area.) (BMBL-App(D): 1(a))</p> <p>Notes:</p>				
68	C	<p>Is the equipment free of pinch points and sharp edges that could injure animals or individuals working in the ABSL-2Ag space and sealed or coated with a finish that is resistant to disinfectants and water pressures used for routine cleaning? (BMBL-App(D): 1(d))</p> <p>Notes:</p>				