



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

FOR US POSTAL SERVICE DELIVERY:
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Rockledge One, Suite 360
6705 Rockledge Drive - MSC 7982
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7982
Home Page: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/olaw.htm>

FOR EXPRESS MAIL:
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Rockledge One, Suite 360
6705 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, Maryland 20817
Telephone: (301) 496-7163
Facsimile: (301) 402-7065

May 9, 2017

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
#A3152-01 (OLAW Case Y)

John Mason, Ph.D.
Vice President for Research and
Economic Development
Auburn University
oom Samford Hall
Auburn University, AL 36849

Dear Dr. Mason,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your April 25, 2017 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Auburn University. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that approximately 560 out of a total of 1400 one-day old chicks succumbed to apparent heat stress during transportation on a cold day as a result of a University employee elevating the temperature during the 4.5 hour trip. The remaining chicks that were also subjected to the elevated temperature were deemed inappropriate for use on study and were subsequently euthanized. The associated animal activity was not PHS supported.

The corrective actions consisted of modifying the transport procedures for chicks to ensure appropriate temperature and ventilation parameters during transportation. Modifications included maintaining a six inch space between 4-5 stacks of hatching baskets with real time monitoring of inter-stack temperatures using probes and maintaining the internal van temperature at 75°F.

Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that Auburn University implemented appropriate measures to correct and prevent recurrence of this noncompliant event. Your prompt and thorough resolution of this matter is commendable and consistent with the PHS Policy philosophy of monitored self-regulation. We appreciate having been informed of this matter and find no cause for further action by this Office.

Sincerely,

Neera V. Gopee, DVM, PhD, DACLAM, DABT
Animal Welfare Program Specialist
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Chair

3152-Y



AUBURN
UNIVERSITY

Office of Research Compliance
IACUC Administration
115 Ramsay Hall Basement
Auburn University, AL 36849

Telephone: 334-844-5978
Fax: 334-844-4391
IACUCadmin@auburn.edu

April 25, 2017

Dr. Axel Wolff
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
RKL1, Suite 360, MSC 7982
6705 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, MD 20892-7982

Assurance Number: A3152-01

Dear Dr. Wolff:

On approximately March 9, 2017, the IACUC Chair received a verbal report of the death of chicks being transported to a university facility. On March 17, 2017, the IACUC Chair received additional information about the incident and determined that further review by the IACUC was warranted. More detailed information regarding the incident was requested. This information was received by the IACUC Chair on March 28, 2017 and it was determined at that time that a report to OLAW was warranted. The animals were not on a PHS-supported project.

Review of the Incident:

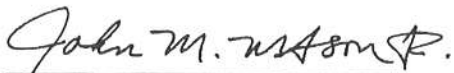
Approximately 1400 one-day-old chicks were transported 4.5 hours by a university employee in a university owned animal transport van. Due to particularly cold outside temperatures and in consideration of the animals, the driver increased the van's interior heat setting. In addition, to minimize disruption to the animals, the driver made no stops during transport. Upon arrival at the University, approximately 40% (560) of the chicks were found to have succumbed from presumed heat stress. The remaining animals were euthanized as it was determined they were unsuitable for experimental use due to their presumed heat exposure.

Corrective Actions Taken:

The facility clarified its procedure for the transport of chicks to ensure proper temperature and ventilation during transport. Clarifications included: transport of animals in hatching baskets (4-5/stack) with 6 inches of space between stacks for ventilation, real time monitoring of the temperature between stacks by means of a temperature probe and maintenance of the internal temperature of the van at 75F.

Members of the IACUC reviewed the clarifications to the facility transport procedure and on March 28, 2017, re-inspected the van. Based on the inspection, the facility made repairs to window seals and ceiling liner.

Although the University has not experienced an incident of this type during previous transports, the clarifications to the facility transport procedure and repairs to the vehicle should prevent further incidents of this type.



John M. Mason, Ph.D., P.E.
Auburn University Institutional Official
Vice President for Research and
Economic Development



Timothy D. Braden, Ph.D.
Auburn University IACUC Chair
Associate Professor
Anatomy, Physiology & Pharmacology

CC: [Secondary Individual] Associate Dean for Research, College of Agriculture
[Secondary Individual] Department Head, Poultry Science
Dr. Pat Rynders, University Veterinarian
[Secondary individual] Program Attending Veterinarian, College of Agriculture
[Secondary Individual] Director of Compliance

Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 11:10 AM
To: 'IACUC Admin'
Subject: RE: Report of Noncompliance-Auburn University A3152-01

Thank you for this report, [redacted] We will respond soon.

Axel Wolff, M.S., D.V.M.
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight
OLAW

From: IACUC Admin [mailto:OARPROG@auburn.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 10:14 AM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: John Mason <jmm0027@auburn.edu>; Timothy Braden <bradetd@auburn.edu>; [redacted]
[redacted]@auburn.edu>; [redacted]@auburn.edu>; Pat Rynders <ryndepe@auburn.edu>; [redacted]
[redacted]@auburn.edu>; [redacted]@auburn.edu>
Subject: Report of Noncompliance-Auburn University A3152-01
Importance: High

Good Morning, Dr. Wolfe.

Please find attached to this email a report of noncompliance from Auburn University, Assurance Number A3152-01. If you have any questions or need additional information, please let us know.

Thanks,

[redacted]
Secondary Individual

IACUC Administrator
Phone Number [redacted]
Office of Research Compliance
[redacted] Ramsay Hall Basement
Auburn University, AL 36849

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