

ADDENDUM TO THE ANNUAL REPORT OF RESEARCH FACILITY

October 15, 2020

Assurance Statements:

Below is a summary of all such exceptions to the standards and regulations of the Animal Welfare Act.

From October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020, the following exceptions were approved by Summit Ridge Farms' Institutional and Animal Care and Use Committee:

Section 3.6 Primary Enclosures

(b) Additional requirements for cats.

(3) Litter

Litter exceptions were approved for 255 adult felines participating on digestibility, urine pH, and/or customized trials. The litter exceptions were granted to eliminate the possibility of contamination of specimens on studies involving the collection of feces and/or urine.

The following is the explanation necessary to clarify both canines and felines in category D.

- NOTE 1:

The number of animals in category D has been calculated by including all dogs and cats that received anesthesia for dental cleanings and plaque/gingivitis/calculus scoring. These animals did not have any oral pathology that would cause pain on dental cleaning. In the past dogs and cats used on dental studies were placed in a Category C as anesthesia is used for restraint purposes only. Dental cleanings and "scoring" (using a disclosing agent to look at plaque buildup on teeth) are performed in conscious humans as the procedures are considered relatively non-painful. Because dogs and cats are not cooperative when it comes to non-painful dental manipulations such as cleanings and scorings the current standard of veterinary care is that dental cleanings should be performed in anesthetized animals in order to adequately clean the teeth in dogs and cats. Based on the fact that these procedures are performed in conscious humans and that the anesthesia in the dogs and cats is only being used for restraint to allow for animal cooperation and technician safety Summit Ridge Farms believes the animals should be in a Category C. USDA has changed their stance on this situation by indicating the animals are being relieved of distress hence placing the animals in a Category D. This is a difficult argument to defend since distress in this situation is hard to define. Chemical restraint like physical restraint is considered an acceptable method of restraint. If physical restraint could be used it would put these animals in a Category C. Since chemical restraint is considered an acceptable method of restraint, it should not change the category the animals are placed in when used.