

Exemptions Approved by Texas Tech University's IACUC
Registration Number: 74-R-0108

- Protocol 21006-01: 21 Pigs
 - Space requirement exemption to allow for neonatal pigs to be group housed in the pre-nursery phase when purchased without the dam. Housing density allows for all normal postural and social adjustments with adequate freedom of movement. This group housing is beneficial for social development and thermoregulation. Piglets are monitored for stress, malnutrition, body condition and abnormal behavioral patterns to determine if space allowance is insufficient. Piglets are separated after weaning age, when determined more space is needed per pig, or at the description of the vets.
 - Research pigs may be fasted overnight up to 24h to encourage to eat the experimental product on sensitization and challenge days or prior to euthanasia to remove digestive contents from the intestine. Body condition scores and growth weight are used to assess welfare.
 - Single housing for sows in farrowing crates to protect the piglets and decrease piglet mortality – approved exemption in IACUC policy as well as in protocol.
 - Space requirements exempted for farrowing crates for the sow in order to protect piglets to follow The Ag Guide spacing instead of the ILAR Guide, as well as exempt based on standard industry practice.
 - If sow is housed, a cage change frequency exemption to the ILAR Guide is approved to not remove the sow from housing to cause undue stress which affects milk production. Excreta is removed daily, and enclosures are still hosed and cleaned daily. Farrowing crates are sanitized prior to new animals being housed.
 - Allow radios to be used for enrichment purposes.