

University of Arizona Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

Animal Activity Welfare Report

Date of Initiation	Principal Investigator	Department	Case Number
11/2/21		Animal & Comparative Biomedical Sciences	2021-007-W
IACUC Protocol (s)	Title (s)		
09-042			
Funding	Species	Date(s) of incoming report	
Departmental	Equine	11/1/21; 1/27/22; 2/15/22	

Type of Deficiency/Incident/Modification	Welfare Report	IACUC Categorization	N/A
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Regulatory Authority:

As per University of Arizona Policy 2.13.03 *Research Involving Animal Subjects*, "All research, both sponsored and non-sponsored, involving animal subjects must be reviewed by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) to ensure that it conforms to University policies governing animal welfare and meets the requirements of the federal Animal Welfare Act and the Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals."

As per University of Arizona IACUC Guidance I-IC-GU-113, Oversight of Animal Activities, the IACUC has oversight of all animal activity performed on University of Arizona property, and is obligated to investigate any instances of animal welfare concerns.

Description of welfare complaint(s):

1. On 11/1/21, the IACUC received an anonymous animal welfare complaint regarding the presence of an individual and their activity being disruptive and potentially dangerous to the animals and humans.
2. A second anonymous animal welfare report was received 1/27/22, which indicated that water troughs were dirty and that the horses have long hooves. The IACUC requested that the UAC AV investigate, and it was found that the troughs were old, but water was clean, and management was actively seeking farrier services.
3. On 2/15/22 a third anonymous animal welfare report was received regarding the condition of one of the stallions part of the Arabian herd.

Date	Principal Investigator Response
2/23/22	PI is the interim director of Animal and Comparative Biomedical Science (ACBS) indicated in a phone call with AV that they should not be responsible for horses other than those owned by ACBS. The Arabian herd is privately owned but managed by the UA as part of the same protocol as the ACBS herd.

IACUC Findings

1. The IACUC investigated report 1 and determined that the individual was a protocol participant, and was present and performing in a manner consistent with the approved protocol.
2. The IACUC requested that the UAC AV investigate, and it was found that the troughs were old, but water was clean, and management was actively seeking farrier services, but that the hooves were not concerning. The approved protocol calls for farrier services "as needed," so this finding is not in violation of the approved protocol. As of 3/2, a farrier has been hired and will be performing weekly maintenance as needed.
3. The animal was evaluated by a UAC veterinarian and found to be elderly and in poor condition but is in active treatment and improving. End of life options were discussed with management and the horse's owner. The breeding herd is owned by a private entity and is under the management of UArizona as part of the protocol and contract.

IACUC Recommendations/Requirements

The IACUC was notified about this issue and recommends the following additional actions:

- The welfare issues were largely found to be unsubstantiated – however, issues with [REDACTED] remain:
- As it stands, the current PI is responsible for both the ACBS herd and the Arabian herd. If the PI declines to provide management as agreed to by the current protocol, either a suitable PI must be found for the current protocol, or the Arabian herd should be separated to its own protocol with a suitable PI.
- Management issues at the [REDACTED] between ACBS and [REDACTED] (which is the department overseeing the [REDACTED]) need to be resolved.