University of Michigan USDA Exception 2022

The Guide indicates an adult sheep cage should have a minimum of 15-20 ft2 floor space per animal. In addition, the Guide indicates a restraint device should not be considered a normal method of housing. A number of projects include housing sheep in stanchions/stalls. This departure is approved by the IACUC for scientific needs. Forty sheep experienced this exception.

The IACUC approved housing neonatal piglets in enclosures that are smaller than the Guide recommendations. Due to the neonatal state of the piglets, following the Guide minimum size recommendation for pigs would create distress for the animals. Consequently, and for the comfort of the animals, the piglets are maintained in cages that are smaller than the required size. However, the animals were still able to make normal postural adjustments. Twenty-two piglets experienced this exception.

The IACUC approved the single housing of incompatible animals. seven non-human primates are individually maintained.