

IACUC-Approved Exceptions to the AWA for FY2022:

1. Hamsters in ABSL3 facility will be housed in mouse cages with a height of 5 inches instead of 6 inches as described in AWA. This will be for a period not exceeding two weeks. This exception was approved to allow hamsters to be housed in specialized biocontainment cages. 190 hamsters were affected by this exception in FY2022.
2. Guinea pigs are pair-housed in ABSL3 facility in cages with maximum floor space of 135 sq inches, instead of the required 101 sq inches per guinea pig weighing over 350 grams. This will be for a period not exceeding two weeks. This minimizes single housing and allows guinea pigs to be housed in specialized biocontainment cages. No guinea pigs were affected by this exception in FY2022.