

Bethyl Laboratories, Inc. P.O. Box 850 Montgomery, TX 77356

<u>CITATION AND NOTIFICATION OF PENALTY</u>

We believe that you violated the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. § 2131 et seq.) (AWA), as described below.

Date of Alleged Violation: August 31, 2021

9 C.F.R. § 2.33(b)(3) Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care. Each research facility shall establish and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care that includes daily observation of all animals to assess their health and well-being that includes a mechanism of direct and frequent communication that timely and accurate information on problems of animal health, behavior, and well-being is conveyed to the attending veterinarian.

You failed to conduct daily observation of animals and communicate issues to the attending veterinarian as required.

APHIS officials observed one female rabbit with sores on both of its hocks that were approximately the size of a quarter in diameter with hair loss, ulceration, redness, and inflammation. (Cage No. 3, Barn 9). When sitting upright in a normal sitting position, bearing weight on her hocks, she exhibited signs of discomfort by constantly shifting back and forth between the two back limbs.

The metal enclosure had no other substrates between the animal and the metal. The issue had not been reported to the attending veterinarian and the rabbit was not receiving any treatment for the condition.

Date of Alleged Violation: December 7, 2021

9 C.F.R. § 2.32(a) Personnel qualifications. It shall be the responsibility of the research facility to ensure that all scientists, research technicians, animal technicians, and other personnel involved in animal care, treatment, and use are qualified to perform their duties. This responsibility shall be fulfilled in part through the provision of training and instruction to those personnel.

You failed to ensure that all animal technicians and other personnel involved in animal care, treatment, and use are qualified to perform their duties.

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APHIS officials observed a rabbit with a lump, approximately the size of a silver dollar along the inside of its right, rear foot. The lump was actively bleeding and there was hair loss along the old scarring, and hair thinning along the top side. The rabbit was observed to be slow moving at times. (Pen 156, Barn 9).

Although caretakers noted that all the animals were fed and checked earlier in the morning, with another round of observations beginning later in the afternoon, the bleeding lump was not observed.

Date of Alleged Violation: December 7, 2021

9 C.F.R. § 2.33(b)(3) Attending Veterinarian and adequate veterinary care. Each research facility shall establish and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care that includes daily observation of all animals to assess their health and well-being that includes a mechanism of direct and frequent communication that timely and accurate information on problems of animal health, behavior, and well-being is conveyed to the attending veterinarian;

You failed to adequately observe animals and report issues to the attending veterinarian as required.

APHIS officials observed a rabbit with a swollen left eye that had redness, a buildup of a green discharge, and mucous. The hair around the eye was wet with green crust along some of the lashes and the anima was observed to be squinting. (Cage No. 42, Barn 9).

In November 2021, you began treating the condition with a topical antibiotic, but failed to notify the attending veterinarian of the ongoing condition and its duration of over a month.

The penalty for the alleged violation(s) described above is \$3,750.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

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