

**STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES**  
**DIVISION OF COMPARATIVE MEDICINE**  
**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA**

SOP#: 405.4

Date Issued: 3/19

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**TITLE:** **Spiny Mice (*Acomys spp.*) Husbandry**  
**SCOPE:** Animal Care Personnel  
**RESPONSIBILITY:** Facility Manager, Technical Staff, Veterinary Staff  
**PURPOSE:** To Outline the Proper Procedures for Receiving, Physical Examination, Evaluating Health Status, Handling, Care and Husbandry Practices Related to African Spiny Mice (*Acomys spp.*)

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**I. PURPOSE**

1. To ensure the highest quality of animal health and preclude the development of spontaneous diseases or disorders, which could compromise the integrity of studies and the interpretation of results.
2. To ensure personnel handling spiny mice perform their duties in a manner that complies with all current governing laws, regulations and guidelines.

**II. RESPONSIBILITY**

- 1.



- b. This diet can be supplemented with Tekland Global 2014 rodent chow (or other comparable low fat, low protein rodent chow), but quantities should be limited and should not be provided ad libitum.
  - 3. Food enrichment is **offered 4 times per week**, from an approved list of items which include:
    - a. Dried Mealworms <http://www.bio-serv.com/product/9264.html>
    - b. Black oil sunflower Seeds <http://www.bio-serv.com/product/SFS.html>
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- f. Colony medical records must include, at a minimum, weekly entries made by the

5. Assure any new arrivals are recorded on ***Per Diem Sheet***.
- b. Floors are to be **swept and mopped** Monday, Wednesday, Friday or when soiled.
- c. **Weekly room duties** include:
  1. Sanitize mop head.
  2. Sanitize enrichment items.
  3. Wipe down door and doorframe with Oxivir Tb™.
  4. Physically count animals within the room.
- d. **Semi-monthly room duties** include:
  1. Sanitize all room cleaning equipment (e.g., mop, mop bucket, broom, dust pan, feed pan, etc.).
  2. Check/clean HVAC vents and replace air filters as needed.
- e. **Monthly room duties** include:
  1. Confirm diurnal light timers are accurately controlling animal room lights (HOB0) and record.
  2. Wash walls with Oxivir Tb™ as needed.

**Approved:**

**Date:**