

INSTRUCTIONS FOR REPORTING THE NUMBERS OF ANIMALS USED FOR RESEARCH IN 2017

(Revised December 14, 2016)

The operator of each research facility registered under the Animals for Research Act (the Act) is required to prepare an annual report on animal use and acquisition according to Section 4, subsection 1 of Regulation 22 of the Act (**see Appendix A** 'Legal References'). The report (**see Appendix E** 'Animal Use Data Form') shall be submitted to the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) by **February 28, 2018**.

The following information is requested:

- the number of each species of animal used for research by the facility in 2017 (**See Appendix B**),
- the number of cats and dogs used only once in non-recovery experiments or surgical procedures (**See Appendix C**) and
- the number of cats and dogs used from each source (**See Appendix D**).

The Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC) collects similar information and prepares a similar report. Efforts continue to be made to harmonize the manner in which the CCAC and OMAFRA collect this information and prepare the public reports. For this reason, where applicable and in accordance with the Act, the instructions for reporting animal use and acquisition are similar to instructions issued by the CCAC for the same purpose. If this is not the case, it will be noted in **Appendix B** 'Total Numbers of Animals Used'.

The animal utilization numbers reported by all registered research facilities are added to determine totals for the province. These totals are compiled in a publicly available report. Information identifying registered research facilities, the species, and numbers of animals used in individual facilities is not released in that report.

Tips for completing the Animal Use Data Form:

- 'Animal' is defined as a live, non-human vertebrate
- 'Research' includes:
 - studies,
 - investigation,
 - teaching in any field of knowledge,
 - the performance of tests,
 - diagnosis of disease, and
 - production and testing of preparations intended for use in the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of any disease or condition.
- Use common names of animal species under the appropriate categories of species when completing the report for OMAFRA. For example:
 - categorize all species of rats e.g. Rattus norvegicus and Rattus rattus by the common name 'Rats'.

- Do not use general categories such as 'various reptiles', 'small mammals', 'avian', 'other', and 'poultry' etc.
- Count all animals used in 2017 by following the guidelines provided in **Appendix B** to determine which animals are included and which are not.

Submission of the Animal Use Data Form:

The form should be signed and dated by the representative who is submitting the form.

Complete the form and return it to Janet Chlebus by February 28, 2018 at:

Janet Chlebus
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
Animal Health and Welfare Branch
1 Stone Rd, 5th Floor NW
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4Y2
Telephone 519-826-6601
janet.chlebus@ontario.ca

Inquiries:

If you have any queries or concerns, please contact:

Dr. Denna M Benn
Chief Veterinary Inspector
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
Animal Health and Welfare Branch
1 Stone Rd, 5th Floor NW
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4Y2
Telephone 519-826-4361
denna.benn@ontario.ca

APPENDIX A

LEGAL REFERENCES

A. Reporting Requirements

Section 4, Subsection 1 of Regulation 22 under the Animals for Research Act (the Act) requires that:

- 4(1) The operator of every research facility shall, prior to the first day of March in every year, submit to the Director an annual report in respect of the preceding calendar year and the report shall contain,
- (a) the total number of every species of animal used for research in the research facility in the year;
 - (b) the total number of dogs and the total number of cats purchased or otherwise acquired from,
 - (i) other research facilities,
 - (ii) pounds,
 - (iii) supply facilities, and
 - (iv) other sources; and
 - (c) the total number of dogs and the total number of cats that in any experiment or surgical procedure did not recover from anaesthesia. **Interpretation: only used in a non-recovery procedure**

Section 7 of Regulation 22 under the Act states that:

7. Where a research facility is established by an operator and is used by that operator as a research facility for a total period of time not exceeding thirty days in any one year, the operator is exempt from subsection 4(1) of the Act and from section 4 of Regulation 24 of the Revised Regulations of Ontario, 1990, in respect of the premises, subject to the condition that the research facility shall be maintained in a sanitary condition at all times, as free as practicable from insects and vermin. **Interpretation: the operator must report numbers of animals used in 2017.**

B. Purchase or other acquisition of animals by research facilities

Section 10 in Regulation 22 under the Act states that:

10. Where a person wishes to purchase or otherwise acquire an animal for use in a research facility and the animal is not of a type that may be readily purchased or otherwise acquired under section 14 of the Act by reason of its species or strain or by reason of any specific disease or condition desired of the animals, the person is exempt from section 14 of the Act but where the animal is a dog or cat the exemption is subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to purchasing or otherwise acquiring the animal the person shall advise the *Director in writing of,
 - i. the number of animals to be purchased or otherwise acquired,
 - ii. the name and address of the person from whom the animal is to be purchased or otherwise acquired, and
 - iii. the reason why the animal may not be readily purchased or otherwise acquired under section 14 of the Act.
2. Prior to purchasing or otherwise acquiring the animal the person shall obtain the permission in writing of the Director therefor.

***For practical purposes, all sections will be sent to Dr D.M. Benn, Chief Veterinary Inspector**

Section 14, Subsection 1 and 3 of the Act requires that:

14(1) No person shall purchase or otherwise acquire an animal from any person in Ontario for use in a research facility except from,

- (a) the operator of a registered research facility;
- (b) the operator of a pound, under section 20;
- (c) the operator of a supply facility who is,
 - (i) the holder of a licence as an operator of a supply facility, or
 - ** (ii) exempt under this Act or the regulations from the provisions of subsection 2 (1) in respect of the animal. R.S.O. 1990, c. A.22, s. 14 (1).

****Note: this pertains to cattle, fish, goats, horses, poultry, reptiles, sheep, swine or game wildlife**

Exceptions

- (3) Nothing in this section prevents,
- (a) the acquisition by a research facility of a dog or cat that has been donated to the research facility by the owner thereof;

APPENDIX B

TOTAL NUMBER OF EVERY SPECIES OF ANIMAL

Some animals in research facilities, utilized in field studies or privately owned may not require inclusion in the report. Please refer to the following lists which indicate the animals that should be and should not be reported to the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

The following animals used for 'research' must be included in the report (and included in an approved protocol):

- All vertebrate non-human animals used in Ontario (**note - this differs from the CCAC**);
- Sentinel animals must be counted when these animals are used in the diagnosis/detection of infectious diseases (**note - this differs from the CCAC**);
- Animals born in a research facility, included in a protocol and used for 'research' in 2017;
- Live animals brought into a research facility under a 'research' protocol and immediately killed for use e.g. for teaching purposes;
- Privately owned animals both farm and pets used primarily for 'research' e.g. taking additional samples or giving drugs that are not considered established veterinary practice and are required for 'research' purposes; and training opportunities for students. For example:
 - Animals brought to research facilities by their owners for use as blood donors or for other test procedures, and the definition of 'research' is met. Their use must be included in an approved protocol;
 - Some Colleges with Veterinary Technician programs have clinics that are used exclusively as teaching clinics. These animals are provided with veterinary care primarily to train students in the veterinary technician program;
- For research conducted on a fetus, the female animal carrying the fetus would be counted since any procedure on a fetus would require manipulation of the female i.e. surgical or laparoscopic procedures;
- All animals in Ontario that are used for 'research' purposes, including field studies where animals are manipulated in any way e.g. transmitters attached/inserted, tagged, banded, restrained, tissues sampled i.e. toe-clipped, etc. (**note – this differs from the CCAC**);
- Animals involved in lethal field sampling for 'research' purposes (not including lethal field sampling for population management and monitoring programs only);
- Amphibian and fish larvae that have reached a stage where survival can be reasonably expected e.g. tadpoles, and post yolk sac absorption for fish e.g. swim up stage for rainbow trout;
- Fish and other species used for monitoring contaminant/toxin levels and disease for 'research' purposes (**note - this differs from the CCAC**);
- Although anyone operating a research facility for less than 30 days in 2017 was not required to register the facility in 2017 (see **Section 7 of Reg. 22** of the Act in Appendix A), the operator is

required to report the numbers of animals for all species utilized in that facility in 2017 (**note - this differs from the CCAC**);

- Animals used in more than one study or in more than one registered research facility in 2017 must be counted **only once**. For instance,
 - any animals used in a registered research facility by more than one researcher or instructor in 2017 are reported only once.
 - animals used in one registered research facility and sent to another registered research facility for use in 2017 must be reported only once by the first facility in which the animal was used in that year;

This requires co-ordination within and between institutions/organizations when reporting animal usage;

- Animals used for more than one year must be included in the utilization numbers reported for each year they are used (this excludes animals used solely for breeding). The numbers collected yearly may include the same animals reported in previous years (**note - this differs from the CCAC**);
- Reporting of animals used is the responsibility of the registered research facility that housed the animals for the duration of the research project. If animals were kept in both the home as well as another research institution registered in Ontario, the home institution is requested to report the total numbers of animals used for that research project.

The following animals must not be included:

- All invertebrate animals (**note - this differs from the CCAC**);
- Animals used for 'research' purposes outside of Ontario (**note - this differs from the CCAC**);
- All dead animals and animals that are not euthanized specifically for 'research' purposes including animals which have already been euthanized using standard commercial practices e.g. necropsy specimens collected from animals euthanized/processed at an abattoir;
- Animals and their progeny used solely for breeding and not used for 'research' including teaching purposes;
- Routine husbandry or production management of animals unless used for 'research' purposes;
- Animals used as source of food for other animals;
- Animals on display and not assigned to a 'research' protocol;
- Animals born in a research facility but not assigned to a research, teaching or testing protocol are not counted. However, if these animals are included in a 'research' protocol and used in 2017, they must be counted;
- Eggs, embryos, fetuses and larvae e.g. fish in the 'yolk sac' stage (except for fish and amphibian and fish larvae that have reached a stage where survival can be reasonably expected e.g. tadpoles, and post yolk sac absorption for fish e.g. swim up stage for rainbow trout);
- Hatchery fish and other animals reared solely for release and not involved in 'research';
- Fish involved in mark/recapture studies for abundance estimates, migration, and other parameters required for assessing stocks (not 'research' purposes);

- Fish counted in installations such as counting fences and traps;
- Fish which are lethally sampled for fish inspection procedures, or used for abundance estimates, and other population parameters required for assessing stocks;
- Animals observed e.g. wildlife used in field studies with no interference or manipulation of any kind; and,
- Privately owned animals both farm and pets should not be reported if the primary reason for their use is to provide routine veterinary care or herd health management and not for research, or training opportunities for students;
 - For example:
 - Some facilities that offer teaching programs for veterinary technicians and technologists have made arrangements with local veterinarians (licensed under the Veterinarians' Act of Ontario) whereby students visit the practices of these veterinarians to observe and assist in procedures performed on the animals belonging to the clients of these veterinarians; and,
 - Farm animals on herd health programs where only standard herd health management practices are performed and nothing 'extra' is done to the animals i.e. more blood, tissue sampling, or administration of drugs for 'research' purposes etc.
 - Privately owned dogs and cats groomed by students (this does not include animals used repeatedly throughout the semester to teach specific grooming skills e.g. bathing, combing etc. as part of a course. Those animals are counted).

APPENDIX C

TOTAL NUMBER OF DOGS AND CATS USED IN NON-RECOVERY PROCEDURES

To comply with **Section 4(1) of Regulation 22** under the Act (see Appendix A), information is gathered on the number of dogs and cats used in non-recovery procedures. This term refers to any acute, non-survival studies involving research or surgical procedures.

The numbers reported include dogs and cats that are:

- used just once for 'research' purposes in the research facility and held without any manipulations pending use i.e. no drugs administered prior to anaesthesia; and,
- euthanized without regaining consciousness.

APPENDIX D

TOTAL NUMBER OF DOGS AND CATS FROM EACH SOURCE

In completing this section of the report, the following terms apply:

'Pound Source' refers to **all** dogs and cats obtained from Ontario pounds pursuant to a municipal bylaw in 2017 and either used for 'research' purposes in the reporting institution/organization or shipped out of Ontario (if applicable). If 'pound source' animals are retained and used in the reporting institution/organization in subsequent years, they are included in 'Research Facility Source'.

'Pound' refers to a premise in Ontario used for the detention, maintenance or disposal of dogs or cats that have been impounded pursuant to a by-law of a municipality or the *Dog Owners' Liability Act*.

- It may apply to humane societies which run municipal pounds, where dogs and cats are kept after the redemption period;
- It may also apply to rescue groups if pounds transfer dogs and cats to such facilities after the redemption period.

'Research Facility Source' refers to the numbers of dogs and cats in 2017 that were:

- retained by the reporting institution/organization from previous years;
- born and used for 'research' purposes in the reporting institution/organization; or
- obtained from other registered research facilities in Ontario.

'Donated by Owner' refers to the cats and dogs donated by individuals either in Ontario or outside the province.

- This includes animals brought in by their owners for use as blood donors or for other test procedures at a research facility and the definition of 'research' is met. Their use must be included in an approved protocol; or
- Animals surrendered to humane societies or picked up in communities without municipal bylaws governing stray cats or dogs.

'Miscellaneous' The Act does not specify acquisition of dogs and cats from various sources, e.g. pet stores or breeders. However, permission may be obtained from the Director under the Act to obtain them for 'research' purposes on the basis of special needs e.g. a particular breed is required or a specific disease condition is being studied.

Provide the name and address of these sources and **attach a copy of the permission letter** from the Director under the Act to obtain these dogs and cats (see **Section 10 of Regulation 22** of the Act in Appendix A).

Note: 'Supply facility' was not included in the list of sources as there currently are no licensed supply facilities for dogs or cats in Ontario.