

# HAMSTERS

## Care and Feeding

	Number of Adults	Number of Young	Cage Dimensions*		Height
			Length	Width	
<b>Breeding/Lactation</b>	1 pair	8-10	50 cm	25 cm	15 cm
<b>Growing</b>	—	—	60 cm	60 cm	8 cm
<b>Experimental</b>	8-10		Variable		

## Feeding Recommendations

### Daily Feed Usage

10-14 gm. Feed free choice.  
No supplemental feeding necessary

### Water Requirement

Ad libitum

### Begin Dry Food Consumption

7-9 days

## Environmental Data

### Room Temp.

21 °C

### Humidity

45-55%

### Light

10-12 hrs./day

### Litter Material

Treated shavings, corn cobs, beet pulp, peat moss, or commercial bedding

## Biological Values

### Blood Chemical Composition

#### Water

93-95 gm/100ml

#### Calcium

—

#### Sodium

144 mEq/L

#### Chloride

106 mEq/L

#### Phosphorus

—

#### Potassium

—

Values are for plasma, except where noted

#### Magnesium

2.5 mg/100ml

#### Cholesterol

—

#### Glucose

88.9-97.3 mg/100ml

#### Serum Protein

—

#### Albumin

—

#### Globulin

—

### Oxygen Consumption and Body Temperature

#### Observed Weight

120 gm

#### Temperature

38 °C

#### Oxygen Consumption

—

#### Breathing Rate

74/minute  
(33-127)

#### Heart Rate

450/minute  
(300-600)

## Hematological Values

### Whole Blood Volume (T-1824 dye)

85 ml/kg

### Clotting Time

143 sec.

### RBC Life Span

—

### RBC Diameter

—

### RBC Rate of Sedimentation

2 mm/hr

### Blood pH

7.39

### RBC

4.0-10.0 10<sup>6</sup>/mm<sup>3</sup>

### Hematocrit

49 ml/100ml

### Platelets

160-516 10<sup>3</sup>/mm<sup>3</sup>

### Hb

12.0 gm/100ml

## Total and Differential White Blood Cell Counts

### Leucocytes

—

### Neutros

—

### Eosinos

—

### Basos

—

### Lymphos

—

### Monos

—

## Life Cycle Information

### Weight Adult Male

85-100 gm

### Weight Adult Female

95-120 gm

### Weight at Birth

2 gm

### Breeding Age Male

2 months  
85-100 gm

### Breeding Age Female

2 months  
95-120 gm

### Estrus Cycle

4 days, variations  
4-15 days

### Gestation

16 days, variations  
15-19 days

### Weaning Age

20-24 days  
35 gm

### Litter Size

6-10

### Rebreed After Parturition

4-6 days

### Breeding Life Male

1 year

### Breeding Life Female

10-12 months  
(4-5 litters)

**Mating Data:** Pair

\* Refer to the "Guide for the Care and use of Laboratory Animals" — NIH Publication No. 85-23, Revised 1985.

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