

GUINEA PIGS

Care and Feeding							
Breeding/Lactation	Number of Adults 1 male 3 females	Number of Young 6-8	Cage Dimensions*		Length 75 cm	Width 60 cm	Height 30 cm
Growing	12			75 cm	60 cm	30 cm	
Experimental	2		Variable				
Feeding Recommendations	Daily Feed Usage		Water Requirement		Begin Dry Food Consumption		
	Adult male	35 gm	Ad libitum		4-5 days		
	Pregnant female	35 gm					
Environmental Data	Room Temp. 20-25 °C	Humidity 45-55%	Light 10-12 hrs./day	Litter Material Shredded beet pulp, coarse shavings, or commercial bedding			
Biological Values							
Blood Chemical Composition	Water 93-95 gm/100ml	Calcium 5.3 mEq/L	Sodium 145 mEq/L	Chloride 105 mEq/L	Phosphorus 5.3 mg/100ml	Potassium 7.4 mEq/L	
Values are for plasma, except where noted	Magnesium 2.3 mg/100ml	Cholesterol 21-43 mg/100ml	Glucose 96 mg/100ml (whole blood)	Serum Protein 5.4 gm/100ml	Albumin 3.2 gm/100ml	Globulin 2.2 gm/100ml	
Oxygen Consumption and Body Temperature	Observed Weight 460 gm	Temperature 38.6 °C	Oxygen Consumption 0.76 mlO ₂ /gm/hr	Breathing Rate 90/minute (69-104)	Heart Rate 280/minute (260-400)		
Hematological Values	Whole Blood Volume (T-1824 dye) 75 ml/kg	Clotting Time —	RBC Life Span —	RBC Diameter 7.1 microns	RBC Rate of Sedimentation 0.5-1.5 mm/hr		
	Blood pH 7.35	RBC 4.5-7.0 10 ⁶ /mm ³	Hematocrit 42 ml/100ml	Platelets 525-900 10 ³ /mm ³	Hb 12.35 gm/100ml		
Total and Differential White Blood Cell Counts	Leucocytes 10.0 10 ³ /mm ³	Neutros 4.2 10 ³ /mm ³	Eosinos 0.4 10 ³ /mm ³	Basos 0.07 10 ³ /mm ³	Lymphos 4.9 10 ³ /mm ³	Monos 0.43 10 ³ /mm ³	
Life Cycle Information							
	Weight Adult Male 1000-1200 gm	Weight Adult Female 850-900 gm	Weight at Birth 100 gm	Breeding Age Male 3-5 months 500 gm	Breeding Age Female 3-5 months 500 gm	Estrus Cycle Post-partum or 16-18 days	
	Gestation 59-67 days 63 days avg.	Weaning Age 10 days 250 gm	Litter Size 1-6 3-4 avg.	Rebreed After Parturition Immediately	Breeding Life Male 5 years or longer	Breeding Life Female 4-5 years	
	Mating Data: Colony: 1 male, 3-10 females						

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

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