

HAMSTERS

Care and Feeding

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

Feeding Recommendations	Daily Feed Usage	Water Requirement	Begin Dry Food Consumption
	10-14 gm. Feed free choice. No supplemental feeding necessary	Ad libitum	7-9 days

Environmental Data	Room Temp.	Humidity	Light	Litter Material
	21 °C	45-55%	10-12 hrs./day	Treated shavings, corn cobs, beet pulp, peat moss, or commercial bedding

Biological Values

Blood Chemical Composition	Water	Calcium	Sodium	Chloride	Phosphorus	Potassium
	93-95 gm/100ml	—	144 mEq/L	106 mEq/L	—	—
Values are for plasma, except where noted	Magnesium	Cholesterol	Glucose	Serum Protein	Albumin	Globulin
	2.5 mg/100ml	—	88.9-97.3 mg/100ml	—	—	—

Oxygen Consumption and Body Temperature	Observed Weight	Temperature	Oxygen Consumption	Breathing Rate	Heart Rate
	120 gm	38 °C	—	74/minute (33-127)	450/minute (300-600)

Hematological Values	Whole Blood Volume (T-1824 dye)	Clotting Time	RBC Life Span	RBC Diameter	RBC Rate of Sedimentation
	85 ml/kg	143 sec.	—	—	2 mm/hr
	Blood pH	RBC	Hematocrit	Platelets	Hb
	7.39	4.0-10.0 10 ⁶ /mm ³	49 ml/100ml	160-516 10 ³ /mm ³	12.0 gm/100ml

Total and Differential White Blood Cell Counts	Leucocytes	Neutros	Eosinos	Basos	Lymphos	Monos
	—	—	—	—	—	—

Life Cycle Information

Weight Adult Male	Weight Adult Female	Weight at Birth	Breeding Age Male	Breeding Age Female	Estrus Cycle
85-100 gm	95-120 gm	2 gm	2 months 85-100 gm	2 months 95-120 gm	4 days, variations 4-15 days
Gestation	Weaning Age	Litter Size	Rebreed After Parturition	Breeding Life Male	Breeding Life Female
16 days, variations 15-19 days	20-24 days 35 gm	6-10	4-6 days	1 year	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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