

FELINE

Care and Feeding

	Number of Adults	Number of Young	Cage Dimensions* Length	Width	Height
Breeding/Lactation	1 female	4-6	Refer to 9 Code of Federal Regulations Part 3 - Animal Welfare; Standards; Final Rule		
Growing		1-2	Larger areas recommended for comfort and ease of cleaning		
Experimental		varies			

Feeding Recommendations	Daily Feed Usage	Water Requirement	Begin Dry Food Consumption
	24 gm/kg	Ad libitum. Usually 1.5-2 times the amount of dry food.	3-8 weeks

Environmental Data	Room Temp.	Humidity	Light	Additional Considerations
	16-27° C Avoid drafts	45-55%	10-12 hrs/day	Litter pan with litter. Elevated resting surfaces.

Biological Values

Blood Chemical Composition	Water	Calcium	Sodium	Chloride	Phosphorus	Potassium
		8.94-11.62 mg/dl	150-165 mEq/L	112-129 mEq/L	3.19-8.73 mg/dl	3.7-5.8 mEq/L
Values are for plasma, except where noted	Magnesium	Cholesterol	Glucose	Serum Protein	Albumin	Globulin
	—	58-232 mg/dl	63.1-162.1 mg/dl	6.0-8.2 gm/dl	2.5-3.9 gm/dl	2.6-5.0 gm/dl

Oxygen Consumption and Body Temperature	Observed Weight	Temperature	Oxygen Consumption	Breathing Rate	Heart Rate Adult	Heart Rate Newborn
	—	101.5° F (38.6° C)	0.96 liters/min	26 /min	110-140 /min	—

Hematological Values	Whole Blood Volume (T-1824 dye)	Clotting Time	RBC Life Span	RBC Diameter	RBC Rate of Sedimentation
	55.5 ml/kg	65 sec.	66-78 days	—	—
	Blood pH	RBC	Hematocrit	Platelets	Hb
	7.35	5.5-10 10 ⁶ /dl	29.3-49.8%	190-400 10 ³ /μl	8.0-15.0 gm/dl

Total and Differential White Blood Cell Counts	Leucocytes	Neutros	Eosinos	Basos	Lymphos	Monos
	5.5-19.5 10 ³ /μl	35-75%	2-12%	0%	20-55%	1-4%

Life Cycle Information

Weight Adult Male	Weight Adult Female	Weight at Birth	Breeding Age Male	Breeding Age Female	Estrus Cycle
3.5 kg	2.5 kg	110-120 gm	36 weeks	5-12 months	Polyestrus January - October
Gestation	Weaning Age	Litter Size	Rebreed After Parturition	Breeding Life Male	Breeding Life Female
63-65 days	3-8 weeks	3-5	Next heat period	6-8 years	6-8 years

Mating Data: 1 male, up to 12 females in colony conditions.

Sources: Kirk, R.W. and John D. Bonagura (ed.): Current Veterinary Therapy XI. Philadelphia: W.B. Saunders, 1992.
Fox, James G., Bennett J. Cohen, and Franklin M. Loew (ed.): Laboratory Animal Medicine. Orlando: Academic Press, Inc., 1984.

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