Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee		UNTHSC
Title: Breeding Rodents at UNTHSC		
Document #: 015	**Version #:** 03	
Approved by IACUC Date: February 22, 2017		

A. RESPONSIBILITIES

a. It is the responsibility for the Principal Investigator to submit a breeding attachment for IACUC review and approval before breeding animals at the University of North Texas Health Science Center.
b. It is the responsibility of the IACUC to review all breeding requests submitted.

B. PROCEDURES

a. SEEK APPROVAL
    i. The PI must either submit a breeding attachment with a new protocol, or submit a breeding attachment with an amendment for an existing protocol.

b. BREEDING COUNTS
    i. PIs and their staff are responsible for monitoring the number of rodents used for breeding and their offspring.
    ii. A Monthly Breeding Report form (FMDLAM009-00) will be supplied by DLAM and kept in the rodent rooms. Investigators must complete the form at least monthly. It is recommended that the PI or lab staff record the information on births the day that they are first noted. Required information includes:
        1. Date
        2. Cage Number
        3. Strain/Genotype
        4. Date of birth (DOB)
        5. Number of pups born
        6. Initials
    iii. DLAM staff will collect the reports on the last day of each month and ensure a new form is put up by the 1st of each month.
    iv. All pups produced must be counted in the animal numbers. This includes pups used before weaning and pups that, for scientific reasons, cannot be used for the study.

c. GENERAL BREEDING INFORMATION
    i. Colonies and strains must be approved by the IACUC before breeding may begin.
    ii. In-house breeding must be scientifically justified in the IACUC protocol. Cost is not considered a scientific justification.
    iii. Animals transferred to another investigator on their protocol must follow SOP 020, Animal Transfer Procedure, by submitting a transfer request to be approved by DLAM before the transfer takes place.

iv. It is strongly recommended that each PI appoint a colony manager who monitors the breeding and is in charge of the colony records.
v. Harem breeding is discouraged. For other, more effective breeding schemes please contact the DLAM Facility Manager or the Veterinarian.
vi. The average time for weaning is 21-28 days after birth. This can vary with strain. If pups are too small to be weaned at 21 days, then a note should be placed with the cage card for DLAM staff. If there are any concerns about weaning, contact DLAM staff.

UNT HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

Animal Room
Breeding Record/Timed Pregnant Pup Record

Investigator: _____ **Species:** _____

Protocol #: _____ **BLDG/RM #:** _____

Month: _____ **Year** _____

Date	Cage#	Strain/Genotype	Dam/Sire Information (Optional)	DOB	# Pups in cage	Comments	Initials

FMDLAM009-00