

Clemson University
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)

Policy Number: 3.2

Policy Title: The Reuse of Research Animals

Section 1: Purpose

The following policy provides guidance on the reuse of vertebrate animals in research and teaching activities.

Section 2: Scope

This policy applies to all vertebrate animals used for research, teaching, testing, or demonstration within or associated with the University.

Section 3: Policy

While it is a fundamental principle of animal research to refine, replace, and reduce animal usage, animal welfare must be considered when applying these principles. Animals which have undergone experimental manipulation, especially when the well-being of the animal(s) has been compromised, should not be reused unless the use is approved by IACUC. Examples of such manipulations include, but are not limited to, studies that may result in severe or chronic pain or that cause significant alterations in the animals' ability to maintain normal physiology or adequately respond to stressors.

The reuse of animals must be approved by the one of the IACUC approval methods prior to the transfer or use. This can be accomplished in the initial AUP submission or by amendment to an existing AUP.

The IACUC may approve the utilization of an individual animal or groups of animals on multiple protocols under the following conditions:

- Animals are bred or reared under one protocol then transferred to another protocol for manipulation. The breeding or production protocol should be referenced on the research, teaching, or demonstration protocol. However, in the case of agriculture animals, listing the source as bred or reared at Clemson is appropriate.
- Animals are purchased for one research, teaching, or demonstration protocol but are not utilized. These animals may be transferred to another protocol for use.
- Agriculture animals that have undergone intensive experimental manipulation that permanently alters the animal or induces significant stress are not allowed to be used on subsequent protocols unless approved by the IACUC.
- Other circumstances will be considered on a case by case basis by the IACUC.