

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES
DIVISION OF COMPARATIVE MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

SOP#: 1003.2

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TITLE: **Cage Wash Detergents**
SCOPE: Animal Care Personnel
RESPONSIBILITY: Facility Manager and Technical Staff
PURPOSE: To Outline the Proper Procedures for the Handling and Use of Cagewash Detergents

I. PURPOSE

1. The cage washroom is the area where dirty items are brought in and, either by manual or mechanical means, cleaned and sanitized.

II. RESPONSIBILITY

1. It is the responsibility of the Maintenance Support Personnel or assigned animal care staff working in the facility's cage wash area to make sure cages are washed and sanitized. The Maintenance Support worker should also know how to hook-up the detergent dispenser to the cage washers.
2. It is the responsibility of the Maintenance Support Personnel Supervisor to ensure all Maintenance Support staff understand and comply with these procedures.

III. PROCEDURE

1. Pharmacal® Uri-Solv® liquid acid detergent is used in all cage wash machines.
2. Carefully punch a hole in one of the slots on top of the barrel or unscrew the 3-inch cover.
3. Remove the hose from the empty barrel and push the hose from the detergent dispenser (hanging on wall near cage wash machine) to the bottom of the barrel.
4. Make sure power switches for the detergent dispensers are in the ON position to deliver the detergent to the cage wash machine.
5. When cage wash is turned on, detergent will automatically be dispensed into the cage wash machine.
6. Be sure the detergent barrel sits on top of a barrel dolly. The dolly should have holes drilled in its floor to prevent water from pooling inside. Barrels should not sit directly on the floor, as this presents an insect harborage area.
7. Empty barrels should be rinsed out thoroughly and saved for pickup and recycling.

8. Wash any spilled concentrate down the drain immediately.

IV. SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

1. CAUTION: Undiluted acid detergent can cause chemical burns.
2. Eye protection must be worn when performing procedures that could result in cage wash chemicals coming in contact with the eyes.
2. Wear eye protection, and rubber gloves when hooking up detergent barrels to the detergent dispenser.
3. Use proper lifting techniques and a back brace when lifting.

VI. REFERENCES

1. Pharmacal Research Laboratories, 33 Great Hill Road, Naugatuck, CT. 06770, 1-800-243-5350, www.Pharmacal.com.

Approved:

Date: