

# Directorate for Real Estate and Facility Management

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#### Fact sheet B9a

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# Instructions for sending or transporting genetically modified rodents

As long as genetically modified organisms (GMO) are packed according to hazardous goods regulations (ADR/SDR), there are no additional ADR/SDR requirements for their transport. Since live animals cannot be packed according to hazardous goods regulations (double liquid-tight), this fact sheet can help you observe the relevant regulations to the greatest extent possible. The transportation methods outlined in this fact sheet have been presented to and approved by the authorities (AWEL and the Zurich cantonal veterinary office). The packing method presented here is sufficient for the transport of genetically modified rodents; no further hazardous goods regulations (ADR/SDR) apply.

This fact sheet details the obligations of the shipper, the transporter and the recipient.

## Important information regarding the transport of animals

Any animals that are transported as part of a research project must be

- noted in the ESV registration (Contamination Ordinance; registration via Ecogen)
- noted in the animal testing authorization from the veterinary office.

# 1. Obligations of the shipper

#### 1.1. Packing

Animals must be packed so that they cannot escape. Bedding, excrement, food and water may not escape the packaging.

Please contact the hazardous goods officer in the UZH Safety, Security and Environment team regarding any questions about packing or where to obtain packaging material.

Procedure for packing a small number of animals to be personally transported between buildings at UZH or within Zurich

Procedure for packing animals for transport via a courier or for domestic recipients outside of Zurich

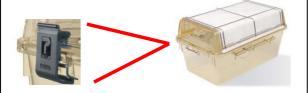
- The shipper must do a visual inspection of the animals' health before they are packed. Any injuries
  or illness must be documented in writing.
- The animals should be separated into different cages or boxes by species, age and sex if necessary. Animals that don't get along need to be kept separately.
- The shipper needs to ensure that animals have sufficient access to food and water for the entire transport duration if necessary.
- According to the Animal Welfare Act, it is permitted to transport as many animals per cage as needed as long as the animals can maintain their normal body position during the journey (TSchV Chapter 3).



# Procedure for packing a small number of animals to be personally transported between buildings at UZH or within Zurich

Procedure for packing animals for transport via a courier or for domestic recipients outside of Zurich

- Animals should be shipped in a normal type 2 or 3 Makrolon cage with a ventilated cover.
- Close the cage securely using the two clips. Take the cage out of the animal holding area.



 Place the animals in a stable disposable transport box with ventilation.



 Before exiting the animal holding area, place the properly labelled cage (see section 1.2) in a reusable plastic exterior cage with a handle (blue or gray).



 (When using a ventilated disposable transport box, it is not necessary to use secondary exterior packaging).

- Firmly place the lid on the plastic cage.
- Check that the cage is labeled properly (see section 1.2).
- Fill out transport documentation (see section 1.3).
- Leave the animal holding area.
- The shipper is responsible for ensuring that the animals are immediately transported to their destination immediately after leaving the facility.
- The shipper is responsible for instructing the courier driver (see section 1.5).



# 1.2. Label the packaging

The hash 3245 must be visible on the exterior packaging (minimum side length of 10 cm), including the accompanying text: "Live animals; genetically modified organisms; only to be opened with permission of the shipper or the recipient". This text is already present on multiuse transport boxes, but it needs to be added to single-use/disposable boxes. These stickers can be obtained from the Safety, Security and Environment office.



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# 1.3. Fill out transport documentation

Every shipment of genetically modified animals needs to be accompanied by transport documentation that is carried by the transporter.

This documentation contains information about the shipper (including the contact person and telephone number), transporter, recipient and the goods being transported. The Safety, Security and Environment office can provide a template for the transport documents.

# 1.4. Prepare accident information sheet for transport by vehicle

For transport by vehicle, you need to make clear how to proceed if there is an accident. An accident information sheet with general instructions in German can be provided by the Safety, Security and Environment office.

#### 1.5. Instruct transport personnel

The shipper is responsible for instructing the transport personnel about the following:

- Excluding members of the vehicle crew, it is not allowed to transport passengers if the transport exceeds the exemption limit (UN 3245 = 333kg gross mass).
- It is not allowed to smoke when loading or driving the vehicle.
- It is forbidden for the transport personnel to open the packed animals during transport.
- The shipper must provide the transporter with the transport documentation and explain its contents if necessary.

# 2. Obligations of the transporter

- Transporters/couriers must make sure the required documentation (transport documents and accident information sheet) is provided.
- It is advisable for the courier to plan the route in advance, informing themselves about possible obstacles such as construction sites, traffic jams, etc.
- The courier is responsible for the accommodation and care of the animals from acceptance to delivery.
- The courier must immediately proceed with transport to the destination once loading the animals. The cages should be transported carefully without being bumped, hit or turned over.
- Once the animals arrive, the courier must inform the recipient immediately.



## 2.1. Transport by foot

• The carrier must never store or set aside the transport box unattended; it must be directly brought to its destination.

# 2.2. Transport by vehicle

- The driver is responsible for making sure that movable boxes are securely fastened in the vehicle.
- The animals should be transported quickly and gently, avoiding strong acceleration or abrupt braking.
- Someone needs to keep their eye on the vehicle at all times during transport; it should never be left unattended.

## 3. Obligations of the recipient

# 3.1. Inspection on arrival at destination

- The recipient and the person transporting the animals should unload them immediately.
- The recipient should check the number of delivered animals and compare it with the number indicated in transport documents.
- They must check the health of the animals.
- Any injuries acquired during the journey need to be documented in writing.

### Contact:

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