

R A B B I T S

Care and Feeding

	Number of Adults	Number of Young	Cage Dimensions* Length	Width	Height
Breeding/Lactation	1 (2 when breeding)	6-8	75 cm	45 cm	45 cm
Growing	12		55 cm	50 cm	40 cm
Experimental	1		75 cm	90 cm	45 cm
Nest Size			45 cm	23 cm	18 cm

Feeding Recommendations	Daily Feed Usage	Water Requirement	Begin Dry Food Consumption
	Adult male Pregnant female	110-175 gm 175-225 gm	Ad libitum 4-5 days

Environmental Data	Room Temp.	Humidity	Light	Litter Material
	20-25 °C	45-55%	12-14 hrs./day	Maintain on 1.25 x 2.5 cm. wire. Good straw, shavings or commercial bedding

Biological Values

Blood Chemical Composition	Water	Calcium	Sodium	Chloride	Phosphorus	Potassium
	93-95 gm/100ml	7.0 mEq/L	140 mEq/L	105 mEq/L	5.9 mg/100ml	5.5-6.0 mEq/L
	Magnesium	Cholesterol	Glucose	Serum Protein	Albumin	Globulin
	3.2-5.4 mg/100ml	30-80 mg/100ml	145 mg/100ml	7.2 gm/100ml	4.6 gm/100ml	2.7 gm/100ml

Values are for plasma, except where noted

Oxygen Consumption and Body Temperature	Observed Weight	Temperature	Oxygen Consumption	Breathing Rate	Heart Rate
	3700 gms	39.4 °C	—	51 /minute (38-60)	205 /minute (123-304)

Hematological Values	Whole Blood Volume (T-1824 dye)	Clotting Time	RBC Life Span	RBC Diameter	RBC Rate of Sedimentation
	60 ml/kg	60-360 sec.	45-70 days	7.0 microns	2 mm/hr
	Blood pH	RBC	Hematocrit	Platelets	Hb
	7.35	4.5-7.0 10 ⁶ /mm ³	41.5 ml/100ml	170-1120 10 ³ /mm ³	13.6 gm/100ml

Total and Differential White Blood Cell Counts	Leucocytes	Neutros	Eosinos	Basos	Lymphos	Monos
	9.0 10 ³ /mm ³	4.1 10 ³ /mm ³	0.18 10 ³ /mm ³	0.45 10 ³ /mm ³	3.5 10 ³ /mm ³	0.73 10 ³ /mm ³

Life Cycle Information

Weight Adult Male	Weight Adult Female	Weight at Birth	Breeding Age Male	Breeding Age Female	Estrus Cycle
4-5.5 kg	4.5-6.5 kg	100 gms	6-7 months 4 kg	5-6 months 4-5 kg	Polyestrus
Gestation	Weaning Age	Litter Size	Rebreed After Parturition	Breeding Life Male	Breeding Life Female
30-32 days 31 days avg.	8 weeks 1.8 kg	1-8 8 avg.	14-28 days	1-3 years	1-3 years

Mating Data: 1 male, 6-10 females, pair-mate usually in buck's cage

* Refer to the "Guide for the Care and use of Laboratory Animals" — NIH Publication No. 85-23, Revised 1985.
Prepared by the Institute of Laboratory Animal Resources, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20418