



**Florida State University
Laboratory Animal Resources**

Cleaning and Disinfection of the Micro- and Macro- Environment

Micro-environment			
Area	Washing/Sanitizing Method	Washing/Sanitizing Frequency	Chemical(s) Used
Solid-bottom cages (static)*	Mechanical washer	Minimally weekly	Non-chlorinated alkaline detergent; phosphoric acid detergent
Solid-bottom cages (IVC) *	Mechanical washer	Biweekly	Non-chlorinated alkaline detergent
Cage lids*	Mechanical washer	Biweekly	Non-chlorinated alkaline detergent
Filter tops*	Mechanical washer	Biweekly	Non-chlorinated alkaline detergent
Cage racks and shelves	Mechanical washer	Semi-annually	Phosphoric acid detergent
Feeders*	Mechanical washer	Biweekly	Non-chlorinated alkaline detergent
Sipper tubes*	Mechanical washer	Weekly	Dilute bleach; Non-chlorinated alkaline detergent
Manipulanda used in environmental enrichment programs*	Mechanical washer	Biweekly	Non-chlorinated alkaline detergent
Transport totes	Handwashing	After each use	Hydrogen Peroxide; Quaternary ammonium chloride
Euthanasia chambers	Hand cleaning	After each use	Hydrogen Peroxide; Quaternary ammonium chloride
Aquatic tanks (freshwater)	Hand cleaning	Weekly, monthly or end of experiment	Dilute bleach
Aquatic tanks (saltwater)	Hand cleaning	At end of experiment	Freshwater

Snake cages	Hand cleaning	Every 7-10 days	Dish soap; Dilute bleach
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Snake water bowls	Hand cleaning	Every 7-10 days	Dish soap, Dilute bleach
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Reptile racks	Hand cleaning	As needed	Not applicable
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Marco-environment

Animal Housing Rooms:

Area	Washing/Sanitizing Method	Washing/Sanitizing Frequency	Chemical(s) Used*
Floors, reptile	Sweeping/Mopping	Swept daily, mopped weekly	Quaternary ammonium chloride
Walls	Hand cleaning	When emptied	Quaternary ammonium chloride
Ceilings	Hand cleaning	When emptied	Quaternary ammonium chloride
Ducts/Pipes	Hand cleaning	When emptied	Quaternary ammonium chloride
Feed Barrels	Hand cleaning	Semi-annually	Quaternary ammonium chloride
Fixtures	Hand cleaning	When emptied	Quaternary ammonium chloride
Aquaria nets	Hand cleaning	After each use	Diluted bleach; Benzalkonium chloride + methylene blue; Water
Snake handling tools	Hand cleaning	After each use	Dish soap

Corridors:

Floors	Sweeping/Mopping	Swept daily Mopped weekly	Quaternary ammonium chloride
Walls	Dusting	As needed	Not applicable
Ceilings	Dusting	As needed	Not applicable
Ducts/Pipes	Hand cleaning	As needed	Not applicable
Fixtures	Hand cleaning	As needed	Not applicable

Support Areas:

Floors	Sweeping/Mopping	Swept weekly Mopped weekly	Quaternary ammonium chloride
Walls	Hand cleaning	As needed	Not applicable
Ceilings	Hand cleaning	As needed	Not applicable
Ducts/Pipes	Hand cleaning	As needed	Not applicable
Fixtures	Hand cleaning	As needed	Not applicable

Implements:

Mops	Replaced monthly	Not applicable	Not applicable
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Dust Mops	Machine washer	Biweekly	Laundry detergent
Mop buckets	Mechanical washer	Monthly	Chlorinated alkaline detergent

Other:			
Animal transport vehicles	Pressure spraying	Monthly	Quaternary ammonium chloride
Utility carts	Mechanical washer	After each use	Non-chlorinated alkaline detergent; Quaternary ammonium chloride

Chemical(s) Used	Chemical Trade Name
Non-Chlorinated alkaline detergent	Alka-Det HW
Phosphoric acid detergent	Acid Power
Hydrogen Peroxide	Peroxigard
Quaternary ammonium chloride	Quatricide PV
Sodium hypochlorite	Bleach

*Sanitation effectiveness is assessed through water temperature monitoring, visual inspection, and microbiological monitoring. Temperature recording labels are used in at least 1 cage wash cycle daily. Used labels are archived in a logbook. Cage wash personnel visually inspect sanitized caging, implements, and accessories to ensure gross debris is removed. Environmental monitoring of processed materials (cage bottoms, cage lids, wire bar lids, water bottles, sipper tubes, and enrichment devices) is performed monthly using a commercially available rapid ATP hygiene test.

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