

TITLE: Invertebrate Coverage Policy

PURPOSE: To standardize procedures for marine invertebrates and not terrestrial invertebrates.

REVIEW/REVISIONS: Permanent amendment/revisions to this policy must be presented to the IACUC for review before implementation and should be developed by the IACUC Office and/or IACUC membership.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 6/3/99; **Revised/Re-Approved:** 12/7/00, 11/2/06, November 1, 2007

POLICY/PROCEDURES:

The University of Arizona IACUC will discontinue review of protocols and inspection of facilities for marine or terrestrial invertebrates unless:

- A) They are to be housed in a Central Facility (AHSC or CAF)
- B) They are included voluntarily by the Principal Investigator within a protocol utilizing vertebrate animals.

JUSTIFICATION:

The IACUC received a request from an investigator to re-examine the active policy of covering marine invertebrates and not terrestrial invertebrates.

Dr. Susan E. Wilson-Sanders, Director of University Animal Care, IACUC Member sent a CompMed listserv request to about 1700 animal care programs asking about their policies covering invertebrates. It was discovered that most large programs, of the respondents, do not cover any invertebrates.

Since there are Occupational Health issues involved with the use of some invertebrates, The Animal Hazard Program at the University of Arizona was consulted to find out if they would like the IACUC to help identify invertebrate users. They indicated that they are addressing these concerns and identifying users through the parameters of their own program.

It was further noted that the Animal Welfare Act and PHS Policy do not require coverage for invertebrates.

AAALAC would require a protocol, however, for any invertebrates housed in a central facility.