



Research Triangle Branch  
American Association for  
Laboratory Animal Science

Quarter 2 2018

## Museum of Life and Science 2018



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## President's Message:

Greetings,

It's hard to believe that we are halfway through the year. The RTB AALAS Executive Council has some exciting events planned. We are still

collecting money for Homes for Animal Heroes (HAH). On May 26, we held a carwash at Zaxby's in Durham, and the restaurant donated a portion of its proceeds to HAH. On June 16, bring your pets if you have one, dress up in your tutus, t-shirts or other spirit wear as RTB AALAS hosts its second annual HAH 5K. Don't forget to get your team together for Trivia Night on June 21. Who will get the bragging rights this year? I can't wait to see who wins. On August 8, we will host our frog wet lab. The Executive Council continues to work diligently to bring some awesome educational programs. As always, if you have any questions or concerns please contact the Executive Council at [info@rtbaalas.org](mailto:info@rtbaalas.org)



Jessica Blackwell

Quarter 2 2018

**EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL**

**2018 Executive Council**

**President- Jessica Blackwell**

**Past President- Julie Kent**

**President Elect- Emily Butler**

**Treasurer- Joy Brinkerhoff**

**Secretary- Lena Perdue**

**Programs- Julie Kent**

**Vendor Liaison- Nancy McCormick**

**Newsletter- Emily Butler**

**Local Arrangements- Ashley Foley**

**Awards- Courtney P. Nesline**

**Membership- Steve Figueroa**

**Webmaster- Janet Steele**

**Nominations- Lindsey Morgan**

**Communications- Jennifer St. Laurent**



## Social Media



How many of you are on social media? Did you know that RTB AALAS has a social media presence? Check out our page: RTB A.A.L.A.S. There are a number of other organizations that are on Facebook as well! Some of the organizations you might want to add to your Facebook feed are listed below.

### **Homes for Animal Heroes**

Homes for Animal Heroes (HAH) is a national program dedicated to rehoming retired research animals, mainly dogs, and sharing the facts about the critical role animals in research play in curing disease. HAH is building a network of dog experts that can effectively work with research institutions to rehome retired research dogs in every state across the country, one location at a time. Our goal is to permanently rehome these animal heroes into loving homes through a comprehensive foster-based program.

<https://www.facebook.com/homesforanimalheroes/>

### **Understanding Animal Research**

This page regularly shares a weekly roundup of animal based research results called "This week in animal research." The features have pictures and a link to the Understanding Animal Research page. The page then links to each of the six studies featured. It's easy to share these to your own feed to help your FB friends know what discoveries animal research has led to.

<http://www.facebook.com/UnderstandingAnimalResearch>

### **The Foundation for Biomedical Research**

This is the Facebook page for the well-known advocacy group. They regularly share items related to animal research that can help keep you in the know about what's happening in biomedical research.

<http://www.facebook.com/FBResearch>

### **AALAS**

Our parent organization is on Facebook! Their page feed has news about deadlines and changes going on at AALAS and occasional features on services and products AALAS offers.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/AALAS/221279445386>

### **The AALAS Foundation**

The AALAS Foundation is very active on Facebook, hosting part of the Share that you Care campaign on Facebook and regularly posting updates on ways to work on outreach.

<http://www.facebook.com/aalasfoundation>

## **RTB AWARDS CATEGORIES & CRITERIA**

### **Rookie of the Year (Vendor – changes yearly)**

#### **Plaque & \$100**

Criteria: 1 year or less working in an animal facility. Current membership in RTB AALAS.

### **Bio-Serv Enhancement or Improvement of Animal Welfare Award (Bio-Serv)**

#### **Plaque & \$250**

Criteria: Member of RTB AALAS. Person nominating must also be a member of RTB AALAS. To recognize contributions of an individual who have contributed a positive impact to enrich, enhance, and/or improve the lives of animals or the environment they work in with regard to animal welfare.

### **Purina Prolab Award (Purina Mills)**

#### **Plaque & \$100 plus \$50 to National AALAS Foundation Education Committee**

Criteria: Individual must have daily contact with animals and demonstrate positive attitude toward animal welfare, performance excellence, pursuit of knowledge in the field of laboratory animal care, and innovative approaches to husbandry-related problems. Formal education is not considered. Current membership in RTB AALAS.

### **Research Technician Award (Envigo)**

#### **Plaque & \$250**

Criteria: LAT or AALAS-Certified Technologist working with the technical aspects of a research project. Current membership in RTB AALAS.

### **Technician of the Year Award (RTB AALAS)**

#### **Plaque & \$250**

Criteria: LAT or LATG who is involved in RTB AALAS. Current membership in RTB AALAS.

### **President's Award (Charles River)**

#### **Plaque & \$500**

Criteria: ALAT or LAT, not at a supervisory level, who exemplifies outstanding dedication and service to the field of Laboratory Animal Care. Current membership in RTB AALAS.

### **Innovation Award (Tecniplast)**

#### **Plaque & \$250**

Criteria: Current member of RTB and National AALAS. Demonstration of commitment to innovation and ingenuity in contributions to the field of laboratory animal science. Participation in learning or information programs. Demonstrated participation in developing, improving, implementing, or providing training and education programs. Demonstrated interest in attaining additional education and training preferred. All considerations being equal, candidates having AALAS certifications will be given priority.

### **Managers Award (Allentown Caging Systems)**

#### **Plaque & \$250**

Criteria: LAT or AALAS-certified LATG and/or Registered CMAR working as a manager or supervisor of a Research Animal Facility. Individual must be an active member of RTB AALAS and National AALAS Member.

### **Clayton Cisar Memorial Award (RTB AALAS Executive Council)**

#### **Plaque**

Criteria: To recognize contributions of an individual to the Research Triangle Branch and to the humane treatment of animals used in biomedical research and teaching. This is not necessarily an annual award, but is awarded based on nomination from the general membership. Selection of the recipient for the award is made by the Executive Council. Individual must be an active member of RTB AALAS.

## RTB AALAS Outreach

RTB AALAS attended the 1st annual FFA Day for Heritage High School in Wake Forest, NC on April 12th, 2018. There were around 200 students that circulated the booths during the event to discuss future career opportunities. Several students are interested in pursuing careers with animals, so we were able to discuss the range of prospects within the biomedical research field that are available to them.

Additionally, we promoted our focus for improving overall animal welfare by displaying several types of enrichment items for various species. Thank you to AALAS Foundation, Tecniplast, Charles River, and Envigo for supplying the educational tools and giveaway items needed for this outreach.



Rebecca Stroud Alexia Priggen Annie Booth  
Julia Brass Aublin Canford  
Trip Brooks Lily O'Brien

RTB AAZAS

Mr. Edmonds

Thank you so much for attending our first annual Heritage High School FFA Day! We hope that you enjoyed our school and the event as a whole. We invite your feedback on how to improve the event as a whole! Our junior FFA Officers team has worked hard to put this event all together and is grateful for your attendance. Lastly, we invite you to our upcoming FFA Banquet on Friday, May 11, 2018 @ 6 PM in the cafeteria (must RSVP).

**Thank you note from Heritage High School**



## **BRAD: Biomedical Research Awareness Day**

On Thursday April 19<sup>th</sup>, UNC Chapel Hill's Division of Comparative Medicine participated in a national campaign called Biomedical Research Awareness Day (BRAD). This was UNC's first time participating in the event, which is hosted and sponsored by Americans for Medical Progress, an organization that promotes public outreach and understanding of biomedical research.

The celebration was both fun and educational. We kicked off the event by watching "Another Brick in the Wall", a video from Transnetyx, highlighting the importance of animal research in combating myotubular myopathy. The staff enjoyed two research presentations from our very own neuroscience and gastroenterology research groups here at UNC. The event finished up with an enrichment competition, in which different groups within DCM battled for the fastest time to match enrichment items to their respective species. Staff also signed a banner pledging their support for biomedical research.



Quarter 2 2018

**North Carolina  
Museum of Life and  
Science**



Quarter 2 2018

**15th Annual  
RTB AALAS Golf Tournament**

**&**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Cornhole Tournament**

**Wednesday, September 26, 2018**

**10:00 AM – Registration for Golf Tournament**

**11:00 AM – Shotgun Start for Golf Tournament**

**1:00 PM – Registration for Cornhole Tournament**

**2:00 PM – Cornhole Tournament**

(Dinner will be provided for all of those who register via Cvent)

*THERE WILL BE RAFFLES AND OPPORTUNITIES TO WIN PLENTY OF PRIZES, AND WE WILL HAVE THE FAMOUS “BEVERAGE” CART. THIS EVENT IS A GREAT WAY TO MEET AND SOCIALIZE WITH FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES. TEAMS OF FOUR WILL BE PLAYING IN A BEST-BALL SCRAMBLE FORMAT FOR THE GOLF TOURNAMENT. THIS YEAR WE ARE BRINGING BACK THE CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT FOR OUR NON-GOLFING MEMBERS. THE CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION WILL START AT 1:00 PM AND THE TOURNAMENT WILL START PROMPTLY AT 2:00 PM.*

*Cash prizes will be awarded to winners in both tournaments.*

**GOLF TOURNAMENT is \$60 per person (includes cart, green fee & buffet dinner)**

**CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT is \$30 per person (includes buffet dinner and two drink tickets)**

**CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT without drink tickets is \$20 per person (includes dinner only)**

**Mill Creek Golf Club  
1700 St Andrews Drive  
Mebane, North Carolina 27302**

If you have registration questions, please email [info@rtbaalas.org](mailto:info@rtbaalas.org)

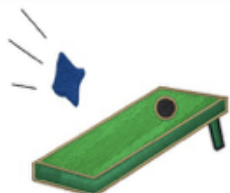
If you have golf event questions, please email [w.wade@duke.edu](mailto:w.wade@duke.edu)

If you have cornhole event questions, please email [cnesline@email.unc.edu](mailto:cnesline@email.unc.edu)

To register visit:

<http://cvent.com/d/hgqwg3/4W>

**Deadline for registration is September 20, 2018.**





**October 12, 2018**

**RTB AALAS**

# **Carolina Tiger Rescue Tour and Work Day**

The excitement will begin promptly at 12:30pm and will end at 5:00pm. The **tour** will take place from 12:45pm-1:45pm and will give RTB AALAS members plenty of opportunity to take photos of some of their most compelling resident carnivores. Next, we'll volunteer as a group to assist with projects such as clearing vines and brush from enclosures, building or dismantling fences, digging trenches for drainage, or other light construction tasks. Be prepared for moderately strenuous physical work in a fairly rustic, natural, outdoor environment :)

**Please see the attachment for details on suggested attire, potential workgroup activities, and driving directions.**

**Come for a tour  
of the sanctuary,  
then join us for  
this unique  
volunteer service  
opportunity with  
the big cats!**

**WHEN: October 12,  
2018, 12:30-5PM  
WHERE: 1940 Hanks  
Chapel Rd,  
Pittsboro, NC 27312**

**We ask that each  
attendee bring  
an item from the  
attached  
donation list.**

**More details to  
come!**



[https://  
carolinatigerrescue.org/](https://carolinatigerrescue.org/)



## Carolina Tiger Rescue Workgroup Confirmation Information

Thank you for committing to assist Carolina Tiger Rescue! Workgroups play a vital role in helping us accomplish our mission everyday and we are forever grateful for your support.

The following information is important for your upcoming workgroup shift.

**Shift Time and Itinerary:** Your afternoon shift will begin promptly at 12:30pm and will end at 5:00pm. We ask that all participants arrive on time to allow for filling out paperwork and reviewing safety information and guidelines. Your tour will take place from 12:45pm-1:45pm and will give your group plenty of opportunity to take photos of some of our most compelling resident carnivores. Individuals arriving late will be escorted by a Carolina Tiger team member to meet up with those who arrived on time, but might miss a portion, if not all, of the sanctuary tour depending on the time they arrive.

**Age of Volunteers:** All members of your group must be at least 16 years of age. Any attendee younger than 18 must bring a copy of our "Minor Volunteer Release" signed by their parent or legal guardian. They can download this release form from the tour page of the Carolina Tiger website at <http://carolinatigerrescue.org/wp-content/uploads/Combined-Minor-Release-2016.pdf>. Any minor who arrives without this completed form will not be able to participate in the day's activities.

**Workgroup Projects:** Workgroups commonly assist with projects such as clearing vines and brush from enclosures, building or dismantling fences, digging trenches for drainage, or other light construction tasks. Your exact project will depend on our particular needs at the time, available tools and materials, and progress made by other groups. Because of these variables, we cannot provide exact details in advance about the work you will be doing. All members of your group should be prepared for moderately strenuous physical work in a fairly rustic, natural, outdoor environment.

**Proper Attire:** The following attire is required when volunteering at Carolina Tiger Rescue.

- Closed-toed shoes or boots only
  - Closed-toed sandals, slip-on shoes, flats, or other similar footwear, do not provide adequate protection from fire ants and other natural hazards
- Long pants – no shorts or capris
  - Shorts and capris do not provide adequate protection from poison ivy and other natural hazards
- Short sleeve shirts are acceptable, but please bring a long sleeve shirt as well because we regularly handle poison ivy
- Please do not wear clothing with offensive or inappropriate logos/graphics on them
- Sports bras must be worn with tank tops
- No bare midriffs
- Please tie up long hair and take off dangling jewelry as animals might be attracted to it

**Natural Hazards:** Carolina Tiger essentially functions as a 35 acre farm, therefore has all of the natural hazards of rural North Carolina. These natural hazards include, but are not limited to, spiders, snakes, mosquitos, poison ivy, poison oak, fire ants, uneven grounds, and exposed tree roots.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** We recommend you bring sunscreen and bug spray for your own personal use while volunteering. Carolina Tiger will provide work gloves and other specialized PPE specific to your job as needed, but each participant is expected to be an advocate for their own safety. Individuals are welcome to bring work gloves from home if they prefer.

**Food and Drinks:** Bottled water is permitted in the animal sanctuary but other food and drink is not allowed unless it is required for medical purposes.



**Inclement Weather Plans:** Please consider the weather forecast for the day you will be volunteering and dress appropriately for outdoor work in that weather. Carolina Tiger tours, programming, and site plans move forward rain or shine. The only time that plans are canceled or rescheduled is when thundershowers (thunder and lightning), hurricanes, tornadoes, or ice/snow storms are expected or are actively in the area. Daily activities will remain the same regardless of other weather conditions.

**Donations:** We ask that each member of your group bring an item from the list below.

- Blackberries, blueberries, kiwi, pear, raspberries, avocados, and grapes (for our animals who eat fruit) \*\*  
They do not like strawberries or melon
  - Toilet paper (4-pack or higher)\*\*
  - Box of disposable latex gloves (sizes M / L)\*\*
  - Ziploc storage bags, quart or gallon size
  - Trash bags, 33+ or 55 gallon size
  - Paper towels (3-pack or higher)\*\*
  - Bug spray (Deep Woods brand, Insect Repellent V) \*\*
  - Sunscreen (SPF 30+ UVA, UVB)
  - Vine clipper (small, hand-held) \*\*
  - Hay fork (long handle)
  - Printing paper (8.5x11)
  - Gift cards (any value) for Ace Hardware, Home Depot, Lowe's, Performance Auto, or any office supply store
  - Cash donations (any amount) are also welcome
- (\*\* indicates items that we currently need the most.)

**Driving Directions:** Driving directions are available on our website at <http://carolinatigerrescue.org/about/directions/>.

Thank you for your help! We look forward to working with you soon.

Best regards,

Maryssa Hill  
Volunteer Coordinator  
Carolina Tiger Rescue  
1940 Hanks Chapel Rd.  
Pittsboro, NC 27312  
919-542-4684  
MaryssaHill@CarolinaTigerRescue.org



## Homes for Animal Heroes Virtual 5K Fun Run/Walk

**When? June 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am**

**Where? Lake Johnson in Raleigh, NC**

**Meet at Pavilion 15 minutes prior to race time  
4601 Avent Ferry Road**

**\*\*Bring out your fastest for the 1<sup>st</sup> annual friendly competition amongst institutions. Who will win? Duke, UNC, NC State, or someone else?!\*\***

**Costumes and 4-legged companions are highly encouraged!**

**Sign up now at [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0E4DADAC2BA6FA7-rtbaalas](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0E4DADAC2BA6FA7-rtbaalas)**

Raise money for the cause to earn a race medal, bandana for your dog, t-shirt, lunch tote, or jacket. To qualify for these awards, please make sure to register through this link:

<https://www.classy.org/team/164260> as a walker/runner on our team, "RTB AALAS

Running for Heroes," no later than June 31st, 2018.

Quarter 2 2018



**JUNE 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2018, 4-7 PM**

**HOSTED BY NIEHS IN RTP**

RTB-AALAS is looking for teams of 4 to compete  
in our "AALAS Feud" event!

Join your co-workers to cheer on your favorite team, and brush up  
on your animal trivia!

\$\$\$ Winners will receive **CASH PRIZES!** \$\$\$

**\*\*Food/social hour from 4-5PM\*\***

**\*\*Game from 5-7PM\*\***

All attending must register through Cvent

<http://www.cvent.com/d/4gqq11>

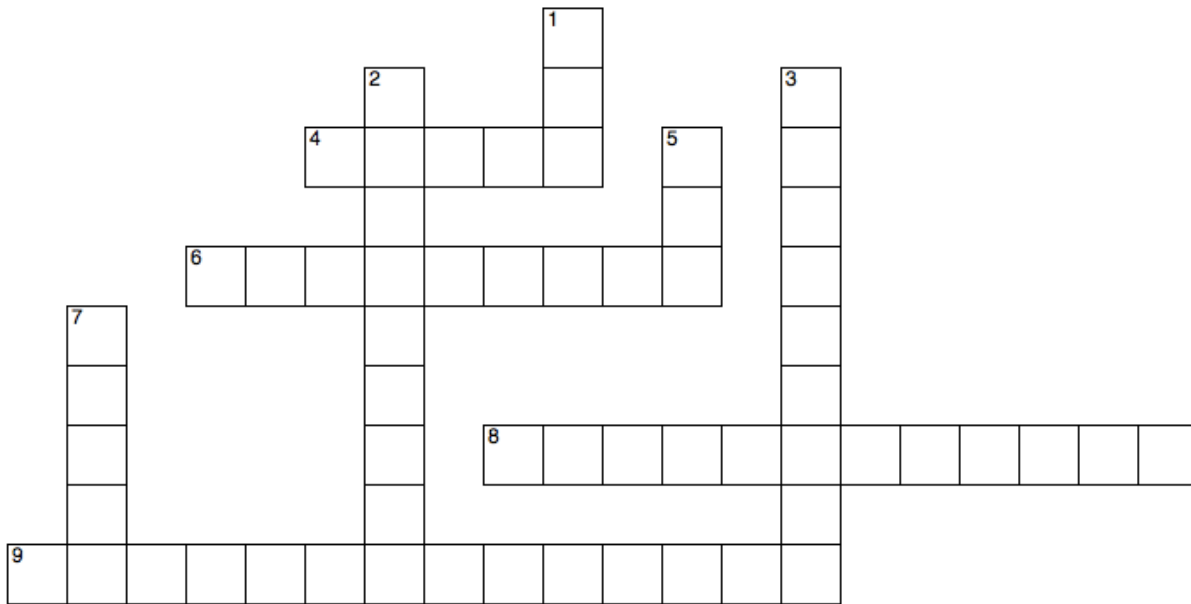
To register a team, please also email [julie.kent@duke.edu](mailto:julie.kent@duke.edu)

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## Quarter 2 Puzzle



### ACROSS

- 4 conducts inspections of animal facilities
- 6 number of AALAS branches
- 8 common way to carry a rabbit
- 9 type of water purification

### DOWN

- 1 common type of rodent caging
- 2 Location of 2018 National Meeting
- 3 hooded breed of rat used in research
- 5 technique used to read genotypes
- 7 number of publications produced by AALAS



Answers due to [ecbutler@email.unc.edu](mailto:ecbutler@email.unc.edu) by 6/22/18

## Spotlight: Executive Council Edition

### Janet Steele, Webmaster:

**Facility/Employer:** UNC-Chapel Hill

**Job Title:** Assistant Operations Director

**What is your favorite movie?**

*The Thomas Crown Affair*

**What is your favorite dessert?**

Peach Cobbler

**How did you get into the field?**

A recommendation by a mentor.

**What are your current interests in animal science?**

Outreach to college students to inform them about the field and the opportunities available after vet school with a degree in animal science.

**Where do you see yourself in five years?**

Still at UNC in my current position.

**What has been the most challenging aspect of your career?**

Juggling multiple projects and trying to keep everyone happy, including the animals.



### Courtney Nesline, Awards Chair:

**Facility/Employer:** UNC-Chapel Hill

**Job Title:** Operations Manager

**What companion animals do you have?**

I have two retired research cats that I collected along my career from NC State. (Port and Hawthorne).

**What is your favorite vacation spot?**

So far, it is San Francisco, California. My husband and I love to travel, though...so who knows what is next!

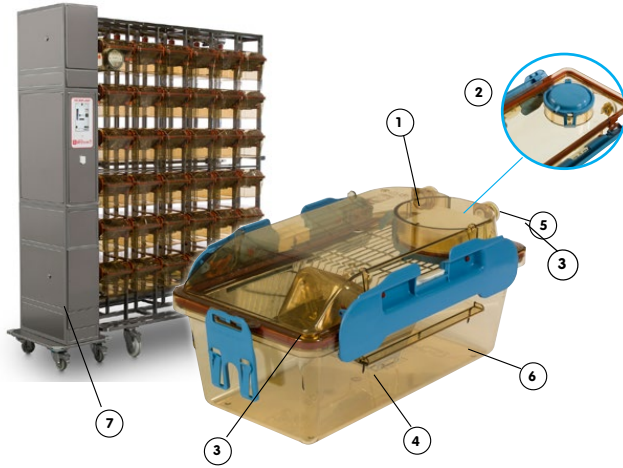
**Who were/are your mentors?**

CJ Arnett was my facility director when I worked for NC State and he filled the primary spot as my mentor in the lab animal field. He provided me a wealth of knowledge and experience that directed me into my current position at UNC Chapel Hill.

**What are your current interests in animal science?**

My interests in animal science have always focused on enrichment and overall welfare.

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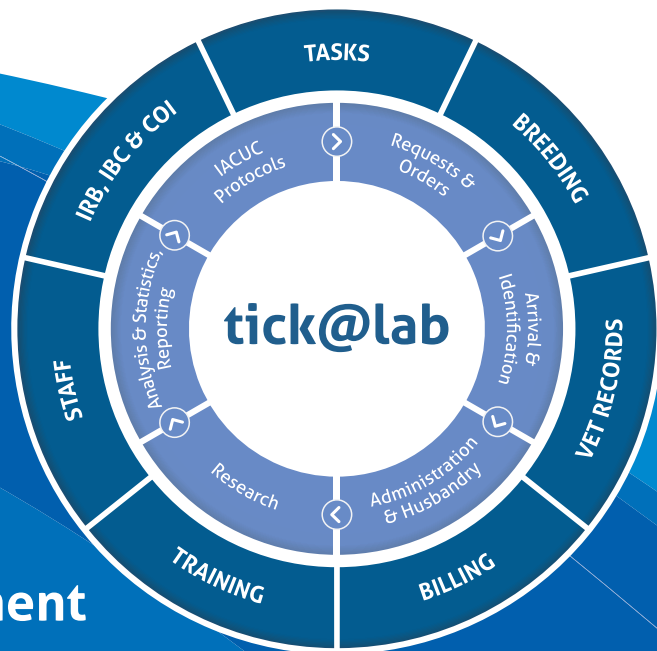


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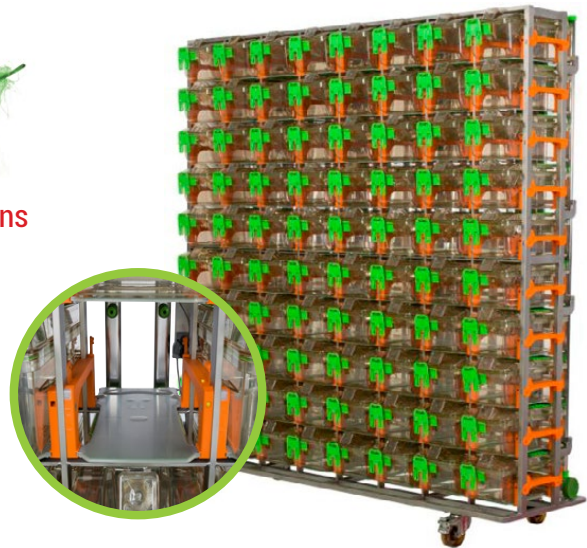


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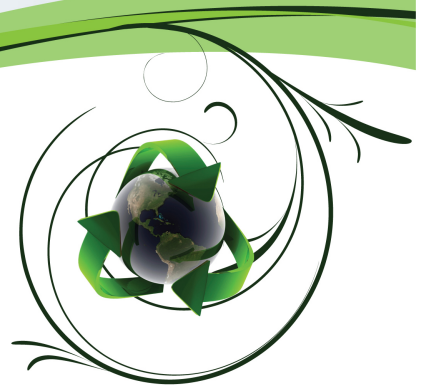
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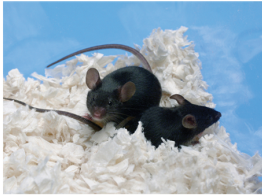
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