

IPS International Guidelines for the Acquisition, Care and Breeding of Nonhuman Primates Research, 2nd Edition



International Primatological Society

RESEARCH CONSERVATION EDUCATION CAPTIVE CARE

(The following is 99% a synopsis of the introduction to the above mentioned document)

The International Primatological Society, among its many other good works brings out a Guideline for Acquisition, Care and Breeding of Nonhuman Primates Research. This valuable documentation is in its 2nd Edition and can be downloaded from the IPS Website. IPS has a Captive Care Committee which prepares the guidelines and then they are sent for comment to their Executive Council. This document was endorsed by the XXI congress held in Uganda in 2006. The 2nd edition guidelines have been revised to reflect the advances in scientific knowledge of all aspects of primatology, including changes in attitude and practice (esp. ref. welfare). The objective of the Guidelines is to promote good practice in the acquisition, care and breeding of primates.

The introduction makes the point that these guidelines are not all original but are synopses of a number of documents felt to reflect best practice in a way that an international organisation such as IPS would support. There are many details in the Annex which can be referred for details and specifications.

Captive management requires specialized care taking into account all aspects of physical, physiological, psychological, and social needs. Because primate use has increased in both habitat and importing countries there is a need for internationally accepted guidelines, in order to see that the animals are used appropriately and that valid scientific results are obtained from their experimental use. Guidelines which cross habitat and non-habitat country lines in all subject areas may not be possible due to different conditions and laws in the various nations. However, when scientific evidence indicates improvement of captive welfare, we should exert pressure to modify legislation and practice that fall short of the optimal captive conditions. The document aims to provide guidelines that work to ensure implementation of appropriate standards for the care of primates despite goals and regional differences of the captive facility that houses them.

The Committee and guidelines avoid either condemn or condone primate usage for biomedical research or testing, but stress that primates should be used only when there is no appropriate alternative, only the minimum number of animals to give scientifically valid results and that pain, suffering, and distress are avoided, minimized or treated, and animal welfare is maximized. The mandate set forth in Russell and Burch's (1992) 3 'R's: replacement, reduction and refinement is the recommended practice. These

internationally acceptable standards may be adhered to in all countries and the practice of creating sustainable captive propagation programmes to decrease or eliminate the demand on wild primate populations is highly recommended.

In recent years the number of primates captured illegally has increased alarmingly. Such animals are often confiscated and kept in rescue centres and sanctuaries, and must be cared in a decent manner for their entire lifetime. International guidelines will assist facility managers measure and improve their standards under the difficult conditions in which they have to work. Websites of two associations of such facilities Pan African Sanctuary Alliance (PASA) [<http://www.panafricanprimates.org>]; and Association of Sanctuaries (TAOS) [<http://www.taosanctuaries.org>].

These guidelines have taken into account such captive situations and provide enabling information so that these facilities can provide appropriate care for the primates. Moreover, although these guidelines were originally intended for facilities keeping primates for biomedical use, this edition intends to address all captive conditions, even zoos, particularly those in developing countries. The goal of this effort is to provide the appropriate care in captivity, irregardless of why or how the animals came to be there. It is an imminently practical acceptance of the realities of today's world and an attempt to provide the best possible solution for the animals under a wide range of circumstances and conditions.

We at ZOO encourage the zoos of South Asia to evaluate their housing and care of primates against this standard and make good use of the information to improve the lives of your captive primates whether they are intended for conservation, welfare or entertainment. A Table of contents of what you may find is on the next page. Download from from the website www.internationalprimatologicalsociety.org/

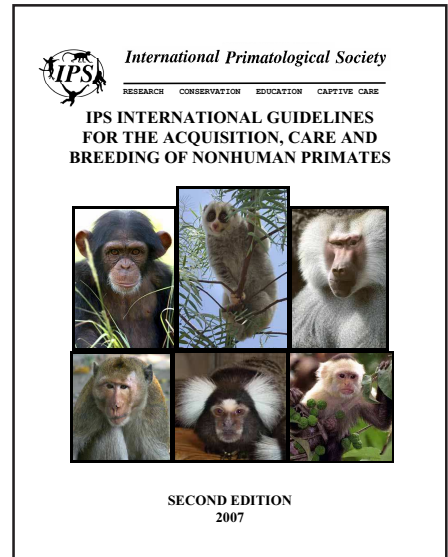


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2. AZA Pet Primate Position Statement

3. WHO/ECG Policy Statement on the Use of Primates for Biomedical

4. IPS Policy Statement on Protection of Primate Health in the Wild

5. Guidelines on Minimum Cage Sizes for Primates (Council of Europe and ILAR)

6. ILAR Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals

IPS Code of Practice 1- PREFACE

Code of Practice 1: HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENRICHMENT AIM PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

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AIM

INTRODUCTION

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AIM

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