



Tail Trapping

Letter of Reprimand received

What happened?

- A mouse was found with its tail trapped in a cage lid and was missed on 3 occasions.

Why did we have to report it?

- SC4(5) we failed to provide adequate daily checks.

What did we learn?

LO-1, There is a misconception that mice seen on top of a mezzanine are free moving. Animals seen on the mezzanine must be checked to see they can move around the cage and are not trapped there.

LO-1, When returning a cage to the rack it can cause the shifting of the internal equipment which has the potential to result in tails becoming trapped.

What did we change?

- A reassessment of competency was undertaken for AM checks.
- Updated manual handling training is being drafted.
- The cage design and potential for it to cause traps is being explored.

SC PEL Standard Conditions

4(5)

The health and well-being of protected animals, and the environmental conditions in all parts of the establishment where animals are kept, shall be checked at least once daily by a competent person. Arrangements shall be made to ensure any defect discovered and any avoidable pain, suffering, distress or lasting harm discovered is eliminated as quickly as possible.