

Support Activities of the Department
of Veterinary Medicine

Principal Investigators :

Richard E. Whitmire, LTC, VC
Frank E. Chapple, III, MAJ, VC
Prayot Tanticharoenyos, DVM
Markpol Tingpalapong, DVM, LL.B
Pranee Hansukjariya, B.Sc.
Jerm Pomsdhit

OBJECTIVE : To report the various activities of the Department of Veterinary Medicine during FY 79 (1 Oct. 78 - 30 Sep. 79).

RESULTS : Laboratory Animal Colony Activities - During FY 79, the laboratory animal colony supplied a large number of research animals to both AFRIMS investigators and investigators from several other medical schools and research institutions. The total number of animals bred, raised, conditioned and issued for use is summarized in Tables 1, 2 and 3. Table 4 lists the blood by species that was supplied to various investigators.

A total of 89 rhesus monkeys (*Macaca mulatta*) were used in the antimalarial drug development program in FY 79. A total of 8 cynomolgus monkeys (*Macaca fascicularis*) were used in hepatitis and malaria projects during the year. A total of 15 cynomolgus monkeys were born between Jan. 1979 and August 1979 in our cynomolgus breeding colony. This is just one short of a 100% birth rate in our first year of breeding this species. During the year we shipped 94 rhesus monkeys to the WRAIR for use by other investigators.

During the year, we were able to establish a separate breeding colony of mice that would produce at least 200 suckling mice per day for use by the Department of Bacteriology and Clinical Laboratory Sciences in their *E. coli* toxin assay. This project requires mice 3-4 days old with body weights that fall within critical limits.

Hematology Laboratory Section :

Activities of the hematology laboratory section during FY 79 are summarized in Table 5.

Three training courses in laboratory animal medicine were taught during FY 79. Two undergraduate courses, one for senior veterinary students from Kasetsart University lasting 6 hours and one for sophomore veterinary students from Chulalongkorn University lasting a total of 12 hours (6 hours lecture and 6 hours practical exercises) were taught. One post graduate training course for Mahidol University Master's degree candidates lasting a total of 12 hours was also taught.

Table 1. Mouse Production from October 78 - September 79.

	Number litters born	25,669
	Number born	231,288
Weanlings Issued	AFRIMS	2,391
	Non-AFRIMS	34,163 (11 Institutions)
Adults Issued	AFRIMS	259
	Non-AFRIMS	1,271 (2 Institutions)
	Litters Issued	6,846
Sucklings Issued	AFRIMS	10,775
	Non-AFRIMS	5,140 (1 Institution)
Total Deaths		3,217
Average pregnancy of female breeders		68-73%

Table 2. Hamster Production. October 78- September 79

	Number litters born	42
	Number born	339
Weanlings Issued	AFRIMS	0
	Non-AFRIMS	0
Adults Issued	AFRIMS	55
	Non-AFRIMS	158 (3 Institutions)
Total Deaths		47
Average pregnancy of female breeders		37-38%

Table 3. Guinea-pig Production. October 78-September 79.

	Number litters born	131
	Number born	411
Weanlings Issued	AFRIMS	0
	Non-AFRIMS	448 (3 Institutions)
Adults Issues	AFRIMS	10
	Non-AFRIMS	14 (1 Institution)
Total Deaths		71

Table 4. Blood Issued. October 78-September 79.

Sheep	AFRIMS	22,547 cc.
	Non-AFRIMS	9,550 cc. (4 Institutions)
Geese	AFRIMS	3,180 cc.
Rabbit	AFRIMS	1,230 cc.
Chicken	AFRIMS	250 cc.
Monkey	AFRIMS	200 cc.
	AFRIMS	100 cc.
Guinea-pig	AFRIMS	16 cc.
	Total	37,373 cc

Table 5. Activities of the Hematology Laboratory for FY 79. 1 October 78
 - September 79.

Malarial Parasite Counts	6,610	Slides
Red Blood Cell Counts	886	Specimens
White Blood Cell Counts	1,485	Specimens
Drugs (weighed for malaria-infected monkeys)	1,801	doses
C.B.C. in Laboratory & Domestic Animals	235	Specimens
Fecal specimens examination for Parasites	70	Specimens
Histopathology	877	Slides