



Guinea Pig Diets General Information

Zeigler provides customers with a series of Guinea Pig Diets for use throughout the biomedical research community for both inbred strains and outbred stocks of guinea pigs.

Guinea Pig Research Quality (RQ) Diets

Zeigler Guinea Pig RQ Diets are fixed formula diets that provide those nutrients required for maximum reproductive performance in guinea pig production and research colonies maintained in conventional environments. Zeigler Guinea Pig RQ diets are “Closed Formula” or proprietary formula diets in that the quantitative ingredient concentrations are not readily available.

National Institutes of Health (NIH) Open Formula Diets

Zeigler Guinea Pig NIH Open Formula Diets were developed at the NIH as standard reference diets for use throughout the biomedical research community. These diets are referred to as “Open Formula” diets because the quantitative ingredient composition is readily available. Zeigler was the first company to make the NIH diets commercially available approximately 35 years ago.

Utilization of Guinea Pig Diets

Shelf Life:

Zeigler’s all natural ingredient guinea pig diets are formulated for a shelf life of six months after the date of manufacture, which is consistent with the recommendations in the NIH “Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.” Guinea pig diets containing vitamin C use to have a 90-day shelf life, however, more stable forms of vitamin C, such as “STAY C”, are now available which have extended the shelf life of these products. Laboratory animal diets should be stored in cool, dry areas where the humidity is low in order to realize maximum shelf life. In addition, feed storage areas should be free of vermin and hazardous materials in order to prevent biological or chemical contaminations.

Sizes:

Zeigler Guinea Pig Diets are most frequently manufactured in pellets 5/32” in diameter and 5/16”- 5/8” long. These diets can also be manufactured into pellets of various sizes to accommodate specific customer requirements.

Packaging:

Zeigler’s Guinea Pig Diets are packaged in 3-ply laminated paper bags of varying weight to accommodate customer requirements. Each bag is labeled with the date of manufacture.

Feeding Instructions:

Zeigler’s Guinea Pig Diets are formulated for ad libitum feeding. The daily feed consumption for adult guinea pigs will range from 25 to 50 grams per day.