1. PURPOSE
1.1 To describe safe and humane procedures for animal reception at large animal research unit (LARU).

2. RESPONSIBILITY
2.1 It is the responsibility of the principal investigator (PI) to provide an accurate description, quantity, weight, sex, and date of arrival of incoming animals.

2.2 Technical personnel are responsible for ensuring that all animals are examined, counted, and placed into appropriate caging.

2.3 The technician staff on duty is responsible for contacting the PI in the event of problems.

3. MATERIALS

4. PROCEDURES
4.1 RECEIVING:
4.1.1 All animals must be obtained from an approved supplier.
4.1.2 Incoming animals must be examined to ensure they are in good health and match the description on the order.
4.1.3 Animals must arrive at the facility 24 hours (from internal sources) or 7 days (from external sources) prior to the scheduled start of the study to complete regulation on receiving and acclimation periods and undergo pre-experimental evaluation.
4.1.4 All large animals are received at the LARU loading door.
4.1.5 Animals are transported according to the conditions listed below (Transporting). Upon arrival, confirm that the animals received match the description on the order form.
4.1.6 A preliminary health check is performed for obvious, clinical signs of ill health (not related to stress of transport). Animals are checked for:
   a. Pink mucus membranes
   b. Nasal / ocular discharge
   c. Coughing / sneezing
   d. Condition of hair coat and skin lesions
   e. Overall body condition (muscle atrophy, limping, etc.)
   f. Signs of diarrhea (may be related to transport)
   g. General attitude
4.1.7 Should any overt symptoms of illness, or characteristics making the animal unacceptable for the experiment be noted on the initial examination, the animal may be refused and sent back to the supplier.
4.1.8 Pigs are brought directly in the holding pen.

4.2 HOUSING:
4.2.1 On arrival at LARU, the animal number and weight is recorded.
4.2.2 Cages are prepared (food, water and bedding) in advance.
4.2.3 The animal is then placed in the appropriate cage (individual housing).
4.2.4 The technician performs a more thorough health examination at this time.
4.2.5- Cage cards are completed and kept on file by the technician on duty. The following information must be included:
   a. Principal Investigator
   b. Protocol number and Expiry date
   c. Date of arrival
   d. Animal I.D.
   e. Breed or strain of animal
   f. Sex

5. RELATED SOPs

5.1- Animal Transport - LARU #4