



## Live Animals Regulations

### CONTAINER REQUIREMENT 79

The illustrations shown in this Container Requirement are examples only. Containers that conform to the principle of written guidelines for the species but look slightly different will still meet the IATA standards.

#### Applicable to:

##### *Carnivorous*

Desman  
Ermine  
Ferret species  
Fox (farm) (also see CR82)  
Marten species  
Mink  
Sable  
Solenodon  
Stoat  
Tree shrew

##### *Herbivorous*

Agouti species  
Chinchilla species  
Gopher  
Guinea pig (non-SPF)  
Gundi  
Hamster (non-SPF)  
Hare  
Hutia  
Lemming  
Marmot  
Moon rat  
Muskrat  
Nutria  
Paca  
Pacarana  
Pika  
Rabbit species  
Squirrel species  
Tuco-tuco

STATE VARIATIONS: GBG-01/02/03/04,  
USG-Variations

OPERATOR VARIATIONS: BA-02, CX-01/02, DL-07,  
GF-01, IB-01, KA-01, QF-01

#### Notes:

1. Mink are to be housed in individual compartments of the container.
2. Normally one animal per compartment unless the animals are used to co-habiting.

### 1. CONTAINER CONSTRUCTION

#### Materials

Wood, fibreglass, rigid plastic, lined with wire mesh strong enough to contain the animal(s) and resist gnawing at all times.

#### Principles of Design

The following principles of design must be met in addition to the General Container Requirements outlined at the beginning of this chapter.

#### Dimension

When constructing travel containers for these species the normal habits and movement must be considered, they must be able to move around freely. The size of the container will vary with the species, refer to the density guidelines in this Container Requirement. Multiple compartmentalised containers must have individual access doors.

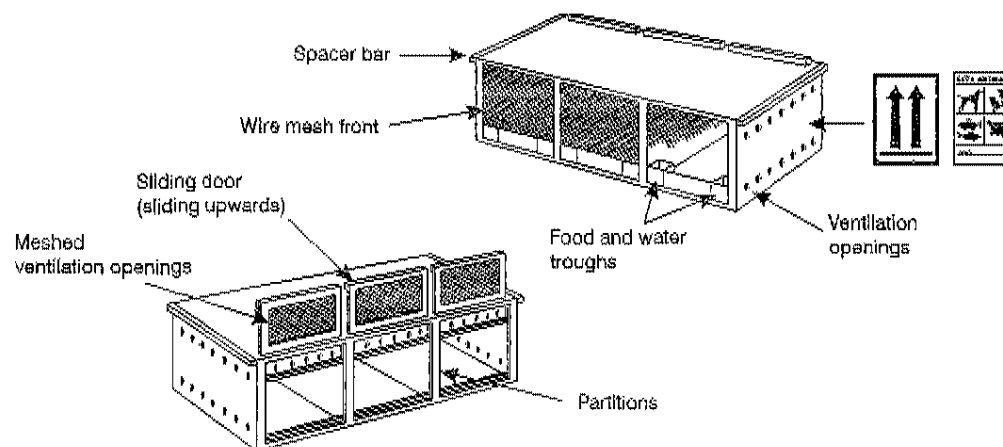
#### Frame

The strong weld mesh lining can form an internal cage round which the outer casing of wood or other suitable material is constructed. When the frame is made from solid wood, it must be screwed together. The frame can also be formed by the wooden base, sides and top of the container being screwed together and then lined with weld mesh, if the weight of the animal permits this type of construction.



## Container Requirements

### EXAMPLE:



### Sides

The sides must be made of wood, fibreglass or rigid plastic lined with wire mesh suitable to contain the animal and withstand gnawing. Any sharp edges must be rounded off.

Ventilation openings and door must be covered with wire mesh with a maximum diameter opening of 2.5 cm (1 in). In the case of smaller animals, the mesh openings must be able to contain the animal and any body parts.

To reduce the amount of light for some species, nylon mesh or other similar material may be placed on the outside of the container that will reduce the amount of light within the container but allow good ventilation.

### Floor

The floor must be solid and leak-proof, it must be covered with a layer of absorbent material, such as wood shavings, for bedding.

### Roof

- △ Can either be made of solid sheet metal, wood or plastic or wire mesh with rigid frame to ensure structural stability. Suitable protection must be used during adverse weather.

### Doors

A sliding door must be provided at the rear of the container to give access into the container. Each compartment of a container must have its own sliding door. All doors must be provided with a secure fastening so that they cannot be opened accidentally.

### Ventilation

Ventilation is provided by wire mesh at the front of the container and wire meshed ventilation openings, with a minimum diameter of 2.5 cm (1 in), which must be present on the sides. When non-wire lined containers are used any internal sharp edges from the wire mesh must be covered with smooth material.

### Spacer Bars/Handles

Must be made to a depth of 2.5 cm (1 in), must be present on the sides of the container as shown in the illustration.

### Feed and Water Containers

Metal food and water containers must be provided, they must fitted into the wood/plywood at the front of the container and be fixed to the uprights of the framework so that they cannot be moved by the animal, there must be a means of outside access for replenishment. Soldered tin must not be used.

### Rigid Plastic Pet Containers (see *Container Requirement 1*)

Rigid plastic pet containers can be used for the air transport of small numbers or individual animals but are not suitable for Tasmanian devils. The following modifications must be undertaken:

- the height and width of the container must allow the animal to stand in a natural position, turn around and lie down comfortably;
- the floor of the container must be made non-slip before being covered with absorbent bedding;
- the grill door and all ventilation openings must be covered with fine wire mesh, if this is fixed on the inside, all edges must be protected and made smooth;
- The door must be fixed shut at both the top and the bottom in such a manner that it cannot be opened easily;
- food and water containers must be fixed inside the container and have outside access for replenishment;
- the container must be correctly labelled;
- if a container has wheels, they must be removed or rendered inoperable.

8

79



## Live Animals Regulations

### 2. PREPARATIONS BEFORE DISPATCH (see Chapter 5)

Squirrels must be given a piece of sacking from which to make their own bedding.

### 3. FEEDING AND WATERING GUIDE (for emergency use only)

Animals do not normally require additional feeding or watering during 24 hours following the time of dispatch.

If feeding is required due to an unforeseen delay, the carnivorous species must be provided with pieces of raw meat, a little fish or dog food and milk. The herbivorous species must be provided with carrots, fruit, nuts or grains. The shipper's instructions must always be followed.

**Note:**

Laboratory and SPF animal containers must not be opened, therefore, these animals must be fed under

scientifically controlled conditions. A viewing panel must be incorporated into the container of SPF animals.

### 4. GENERAL CARE AND LOADING (see Chapters 5 and 10)

Animals known to be for laboratory use must be separated completely from other animals to reduce any risk of cross-infection or contamination, e.g. specific pathogen free (SPF) consignments.

Mink, when disturbed, give off a strong feral odour which will contaminate other loads.

When animals are to be carried in quantity, maintain proper separation of cartons in the aircraft. Care must be taken that there is adequate air circulation throughout the stacks and the boxes are secured in a manner which will prevent them from toppling during flight.

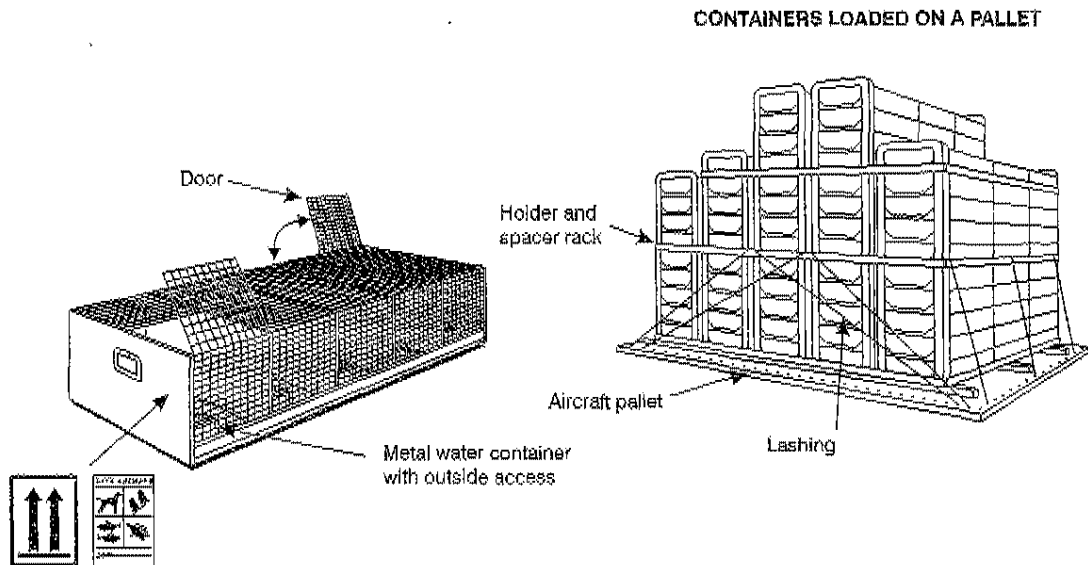
**Warning: These species bite.**

DENSITY GUIDELINES						
Species	Weight of Animal (grams)	Maximum Number per Compartment in Container <sup>1</sup>	Space per Animal		Height of Box	
			cm <sup>2</sup>	in <sup>2</sup>	cm	in
Chinchillas	450-550	2 <sup>2</sup>	260	40	23	9
Hamsters	Young	16	32	5	13	5
Smaller Animals	170-280	12	90	14	15	6
	281-420	12	160	25	15	6
	421 or more	12	230	36	15	6
Larger Animals	2,000 or less	4	770	120	20	8
	2,001-5,000	2	970-1,160	150-180	25	10
	5,001 or more	1	1,400	220	30	12

<sup>1</sup> If ground temperature exceeds 24°C (75°F), reduce maximum number per compartment in the container by 10%.

<sup>2</sup> If ground temperature exceeds 24°C (75°F), allow 520 cm<sup>2</sup> (80 in<sup>2</sup>) per animal. A temperature in the box of more than 27°C (80°F) is liable to be lethal to chinchillas.

**EXAMPLE:**





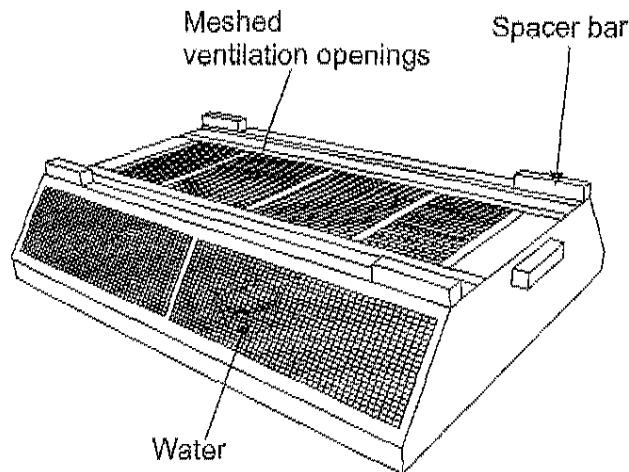
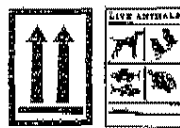
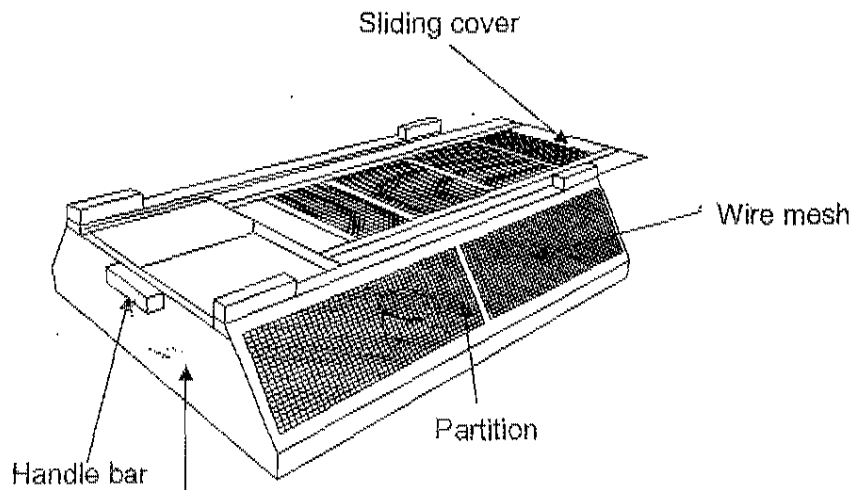
## Container Requirements

DENSITY GUIDELINES									
Species	Weight of Animal (grams)	Number per Compartment in Container <24°C	Number per Compartment in Container >24°C	Space per Animal				Height of Box	
				cm <sup>2</sup> <24°C	in <sup>2</sup> <24°C	cm <sup>2</sup> >24°C	in <sup>2</sup> >24°C	cm	in
Purpose-Bred and Domesticated Ferrets **	Up to 400	12	11	232	36	253	39	15	6
	401-800	8	7	270	42	308.5	48	15	6
	801-1200	6	5	322	50	386	60	15	6
	1201-2000	4	3	677	105	903	140	15	6

\* One female with a nursing litter of offspring will require the same amount of floor space as a single 2000g animal.

\*\* While these space allowances were developed based upon safe transportation data relating to purpose bred and domesticated ferrets they might also serve as a starting point for addressing the space needs of wild ferrets for which these recommendations may need to be adjusted based upon behavioral as well as other considerations.

**EXAMPLE:**



79