



General Information for Exhibitors

Animal protection is very important in Germany and arouses great public interest. Legislation on animal protection is very strict and animals are not regarded as objects, but as fellow creatures that can feel pain and suffering.

Although Interzoo is an international exhibition, the German animal protection regulations also apply to exhibitors from abroad who wish to present live animals at the exhibition. In consultation with the responsible veterinary authorities, we have therefore prepared rules that must be observed for the presentation of live animals.

If such considerations are not applicable in your country, please appreciate the special situation in Germany. Compliance with these rules is in your own interest, as the veterinary authorities carry out checks and you must expect sanctions in the event of contravention. In addition to this, contravention of these rules would certainly also reduce your chances of success among the German visitors.

While presenting live animals, the following instructions have to be observed:

Small mammals, rodents

- Small mammals/rodents may be accommodated for presentation only in enclosures appropriate for the respective species. Minimum sizes of 0.80 m × 0.50 m × 0.50 m must be observed also for the smallest species of this group of animals.
- Appropriate stocking rates which are suitable for the animals have to be observed.
- Each enclosure has to be equipped with possibilities to retreat in such a manner that all animals may retreat at the same time.
- Materials to gnaw (i.e. branches, stones to gnaw) have to be at any time at the small mammal's availability.
- Cages and enclosures are to be equipped accordingly depending on the species (i.e. possibilities for climbing for the mice, possibilities for digging for the gerbils).
- Cages and enclosures are to be designed in a manner that visitors are not able to touch the animals against their will (e.g. cover, corresponding depth).
- Compliance with the requirements concerning such presentations will be checked at the exhibition stand by the veterinary authorities and the organizer.
- At the same time inspection will be made by the competent species conservation authority. The original documents or a species list with CITES import numbers of the protected species must be submitted to the authority during inspection.

The following systems for the keeping and the following accessories in Germany are considered to be in default of the protection of animals and thus are **not allowed** to be filled with live animals:

- Pipe systems made of plastic
- Globes for hamsters
- Hamster cars and similar toys
- Small enclosures (less than 0.80 m x 0.50 m x 0.50 m)