2017 CAWS RFP Awardees

Improving mouse welfare by identifying aggression reducing pheromones



Aggression is the second most common reason for veterinary clinical care in laboratory mice and can lead to severe injury and death. While only accounting for 15% of cases, the potential for injury and suffering affects millions of mice every year. Peaceful groups of male mice are observed in the wild and in the lab, but the factors that differ between these groups and aggressive groups are unknown. There is a critical need to identify compound(s) that reduce aggression related injury and improve mouse welfare.

Faculty leads: Brianna Gaskill, Heng-Wei Chang, Jeffrey Lucas, Marisa Erasmus

The Role of Mindset and Locus of Control on the Welfare of Working Horses in Central and Latin American Communities



Working equids are a vital source of labor in developing regions. Although much research has been conducted on the physical welfare status in this population of animals, little has investigated the human behavior component of this issue. This research team seeks to better understand how mindset and locus of control may be related to the physical welfare status of working equids.

Faculty leads: Colleen Brady, Camie Heleski, Linda Pfieffer, Lauren Brizgys