



**Chinchilla (chinchilla lanigera)**

Species-typical characteristics and requirements	Legal requirements					
	Switzerland	Finland	Denmark	Russia	USA	China
<p><b>Habitat and behavior:</b> Lives in the Andes – from the mountain all the way to the coastal regions. Lives in extensive rocky areas with plants and territories where sand bathing is possible and there are a lot of hiding holes. Jumps and hops around. Pronounced sense of hearing and smelling allows it to avoid enemies. Nocturnal animals.</p> <p><b>Resting and sleeping:</b> Rest and sleep in rocky crevices and caves</p>	<p>Species-appropriate enclosures and shelter</p> <p>Enclosure surface: 0.5 m<sup>2</sup> Height: 1.5 m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>Floors in line with the animal's behavior. Low risk of injury</p> <p>Possibility to sand-bathe</p> <p>Objects to chew on</p> <p>Boards to sit on</p> <p>Free movement</p> <p>Body functions and behavior must not be disturbed</p> <p>Litter</p> <p>Nesting materials</p> <p>Raised possibility to withdraw</p>	<p>No legal stipulations, only EU recommendations</p> <p>Cage size: 0.3 – 0.5m<sup>2</sup> Height: 1.0 m Minimum width: 75 cm</p> <p>At least 25% of the cage floor must be solid and not wire</p> <p>Possibility to sand-bathe once a day</p> <p>Objects to chew on</p> <p>“Freedom to move”</p> <p>Possibility to climb</p> <p>Shelter</p>	<p>No legal stipulations, only EU recommendations</p> <p>Cage size: 0.3 – 0.5m<sup>2</sup> Height: 1.0 m Minimum width: 75 cm</p> <p>At least 25% of the cage floor must be solid and not wire</p> <p>Possibility to sand-bathe once a day</p> <p>Objects to chew on</p> <p>“Freedom to move”</p> <p>Possibility to climb</p> <p>Shelter</p>	<p>No legal stipulations, no recommendations, everything is allowed</p> <p>Usual housing on farms: Standard mesh wire cages: 0.14 – 0.3 m<sup>2</sup> surface, 35 – 40 cm high</p> <p>Cages for young animals are stacked in cages in 3 – 5 rows</p>	<p>No legal stipulations, no recommendations, everything is allowed</p> <p>Usual housing on farms: Standard mesh wire cages: 0.14 – 0.3 m<sup>2</sup> surface 35 – 40 cm high</p> <p>Cages for young animals are stacked in cages in 3 – 5 rows</p>	<p>No legal stipulations, no recommendations, everything is allowed</p> <p>Usual housing on farms: Standard mesh wire cages: 0.14 – 0.3 m<sup>2</sup> surface 35 – 40 cm high</p> <p>Cages for young animals are stacked in cages in 3 – 5 rows</p>
<p><b>Food and excrements:</b> Collect grass, fruit, leaves, barks, and cactuses. Feed sitting upright and using their front paws.</p>	<p>Food must be species-appropriate and meet the animals' requirements</p> <p>Species-appropriate behavior in line with</p>					

	feeding must be possible  Fresh twigs and branches for dental hygiene and occupation  Appropriate space for excrements					
<b>Social organization:</b> Live in colonies of up to 100 animals. Females are aggressive towards adult conspecifics.	Appropriate social contact with conspecifics  At least 2 animals per enclosure  Possibility to withdraw  Largest possible number of grown animals and their young  Stock control	Individual housing only in exceptional cases	Individual housing only in exceptional cases			

### Sources

Legal stipulations (Switzerland) regarding:

- Space requirement, radius of action: addendum 2 tab. 1 Swiss Animal Protection Ordinance
- Food intake: art. 4.2 Swiss Animal Protection Ordinance
- Food plan: art. 3.1 Swiss Animal Protection Ordinance, art. 3 and 4 Swiss
- Excrements: art. 3 Swiss Animal Protection Ordinance
- Social organization: addendum 2, preliminary remark B Swiss Animal Protection Ordinance
- Movement: art. 3, art. 7 Swiss Animal Protection Ordinance
- Resting: art. 7 Swiss Animal Protection Ordinance, addendum 1, tab. 1
- Bringing up of young: art. 3 Swiss Animal Protection Ordinance addendum 2, preliminary remark B
- Common farm housing: prohibited in Switzerland

International (state: November 1, 2010)

- EU recommendations: Standing Committee of the European Convention for the Protection of Animals kept for Farming Purposes (T-AP) Recommendation concerning Fur Animals, adopted by the Standing Committee on June 22, 1999
- In Russia, in 2010, Prime Minister Putin sent a draft for an Animal Protection Act back to the Council for revision
- In China, the first Animal Protection Act is currently in the process of consultation