



Nutria (myocastor coypus)

Species characteristics and requirements	Legal requirements					
	Switzerland	Finland	Denmark	Russia	USA	China
<p>Habitat and behavior: Lives exclusively along densely populated water shores. Occupies territories of 3 – 6 hectares. Nocturnal animals with a pronounced sense of smell and hearing. Runs, swims and dives.</p> <p>Resting and sleeping: Build swimming platforms where they rest and digest. Sleep in self-dug caves of up to 15m length.</p>	<p>Species-appropriate enclosures and shelter.</p> <p>Enclosure surface: 10 m²</p> <p>Possibility to swim, Pool size: 2 m²</p> <p>Species-appropriate floors, small risk of injury</p> <p>Free movement</p> <p>Body functions and behavior should not be disturbed</p> <p>Sleeping box</p>	<p>No legal stipulations, only EU recommendations</p> <p>Cage size: 0.5 – 2.0 m² 70% of the cage must be a solid surface</p> <p>Possibility to swim</p> <p>Nesting box with litter material and two chambers, two exits, sufficient space for all</p>	<p>No legal stipulations, only EU recommendations</p> <p>Cage size: 0.5 – 2.0 m² 70% of the cage must be a solid surface</p> <p>Possibility to swim</p> <p>Nesting box with litter material and two chambers, two exits, sufficient space for all</p>	<p>No legal stipulations, no recommendations, everything is allowed</p> <p>Concrete basins: 12 – 16 m²</p> <p>4 shelters and a possibility to swim</p> <p>Space for 1 male and 5 – 8 female animals</p>	<p>No legal stipulations, no recommendations, everything is allowed</p> <p>Concrete basins: 12 – 16 m²</p> <p>4 shelters and a possibility to swim</p> <p>Space for 1 male and 5 – 8 female animals</p>	<p>No legal stipulations, no recommendations, everything is allowed</p> <p>Concrete basins: 12 – 16 m²</p> <p>4 shelters and a possibility to swim</p> <p>Space for 1 male and 5 – 8 female animals</p>
<p>Food and excrements: Use their front paws to feed. Feed on plants of all kinds. Rarely, also feed on clams and snails. Also feed on their own excrements dropped into water (digestion enzymes). Mark their territories with secretions from their scent glands.</p>	<p>Food must be species-appropriate and meet the animals' requirements</p> <p>Species-appropriate behavior in line with feeding must be possible</p> <p>Fresh twigs and branches for dental hygiene and occupation</p> <p>Appropriate spaces for excrements</p>					

Social organization: Live monogamously, in couples or in family groups of 10 to 15 animals.	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	Housing in groups Sight and smell contact	Housing in groups Sight and smell contact			
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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

State: November 1, 2010