

GUIDE TO ACETATE COLOR COMMUNICATION

ULAM uses acetates (colored, plastic cards) placed over animal cage cards to communicate information between laboratory and ULAM personnel.

Five different acetate colors are used – red, blue, yellow, green, and clear.

An acetate can mean different things depending on its color and orientation (e.g., horizontal or vertically placed over the cage card).

The table below describes what each acetate color and orientation means. Learn more at animalcare.umich.edu/acetates

	Horizontal Red	Health concern or abnormality noted and veterinary personnel notified
	Vertical Red	Veterinary personnel have examined animal and short-term follow-up is needed
	Horizontal Blue	Overcrowded cage densities, requiring attention by the next business day
	Vertical Blue	ULAM identifying single housed animal lacking blue tab with date and code
	Horizontal Yellow	Deviation from ULAM Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)
	Horizontal Green	Veterinary personnel providing long-term monitoring or treatment of condition noted
	Horizontal Clear	Condition observed, noted, and no monitoring or treatment is needed



Questions?

Contact your ULAM Husbandry Supervisor for more information, or if you have additional questions about the use of acetates in your specific animal care room.

Contact information is located on the *Animal Room Entry Sign* posted on the front of each animal room door.



Want to Learn More?

Contact the ULAM Training Core at ulam-trainingcore@umich.edu or (734) 763-8039 if you would like additional training on the use of acetates in animal care rooms.