Description of our model

The Mongolian gerbil (Meriones unguiculatus) is a small rodent whose adult weight can reach 70 to 100g. It belongs to Cricetidae family and originates in the steppes of northeastern China and Mongolia. It was introduced to Tumblebrook Farm by Dr. SCHWENTKER in 1954.

It’s a reference model in epilepsy and cerebral ischemia studies and the gerbil is also a choice model in studies of radiation and experimental atherosclerosis. The effects of hormones on the sebaceous glands (gerbils’ sebaceous gland pads are under the control of androgens and are easily observable) and its ability to thermoregulate are examples of the gerbil’s specific characteristics that can be used in specific fields of research.

Gerbils are also unique among lab animals for their resistance to dehydration; it only needs 4mL of water per day. It also concurrently produces a very small amount of urine.

Main application and research fields

- Cholesterol metabolism
- Neurophysiology: epilepsy
- Oncology
- Parasitology

Our added value

- The « JANVIER LABS Genetic Policy », a specific programme, guarantees less than 1% inbreeding per generation.
- Animals with the SPF or SOPF standards.
- A gentling policy for docile and easy-to-handle animals.
- Optimal stability conditions of our models during shipments, thanks to our dedicated and internal transport service.
- A scientific support with a team of Veterinarians and PhD.

The available scientific bibliography:
Research has been conducted, all over the world, from models bred in our laboratories. Discover our updated bibliography of available studies on our internet website, heading: Customer Support.