

## **Transgenic Core Facility Price Survey Conducted December, 2006**

The total number of facilities responding was approximately 74, but some responses were clearly incomplete and some may have been duplicate responses from the same facility.

All fees have been converted to US dollars, if a different currency was noted. Answers were assumed to be in US dollars unless otherwise stated.

The following data summary lists only those survey questions whose answers were easily summarized. To download an Excel file containing the raw survey data, including narrative answers, [go here](#).

It is instructive to view the narrative answers, to get an idea of the large variety of ways in which fees are structured. While some conclusions and overall trends can be drawn from the summary below, it is important to realize that no two facilities do everything the same way.

### **General Information**

#### Facility location:

Total responses: 59

US Northeast: 19

US Southeast: 6

US Northwest: 2

US Southwest: 8

US Central: 9

Europe: 6

North America (other than US): 3

Australia: 3

Asia: 1

Central/South America: 1

Other: 1

#### Percentage of overall budget covered by institutional subsidies:

Total responses: 50

Range = 0-100%

0-19%: 9

20-39%: 7

40-59%: 10

60-79%: 8

80-100%: 7

subsidy not known (or not enough info given): 9

Number of respondents who perform services for outside clients:

Pronuclear injection - 42 respondents

Blastocyst injection with ES cells - 45 respondents

Cryopreservation of embryos or sperm – 25 respondents

Rederivation - 26 respondents

In vitro fertilization - 13 respondents

Breeding - 14 respondents

Gene targeting – 34 respondents

**Pronuclear injection of DNA**

Does your facility perform pronuclear injection of DNA?

Total responses: 61

Yes: 57 (93%)

No: 4 (7%)

Do you have more than one fee for pronuclear injection, for in-house clients?

Total responses: 55

Yes: 27 (49%)

No: 28 (51%)

If you charge a single fee, what is your fee per construct?

Total responses: 30

Range: \$500-\$4854 (not counting one facility that does not charge anything)

Average: \$2305

One respondent does not include per diem fees in the price.

One respondent does not include per diem fees or cost of embryo donors.

One respondent charges \$1000 per outbred founder (\$1500 for B6 founder), for up to 3 founders.

If you charge a single fee, how many transgenic mice do you guarantee to produce for this fee?

Total responses: 29

One founder: 4 (14%)

Two founders: 11 (38%)

Three or more founders: 14 (48%)

If you have different fees for pronuclear injection of DNA, does your fee vary by strain of egg donors?

Total responses: 41

Yes: 27 (66%)

No: 14 (34%)

If your fees vary by strain of egg donors, please indicate up to 3 strains and the fees charged for each one.

In the following table, I've listed each response in a separate row. Since almost everyone gave a fee for C57BL/6, I sorted the data from lowest to highest fee for this strain. Unless otherwise specified, I assumed B6 data was for the Jax substrain (only two respondents specified the B6 substrain).

Hybrid	C57BL/6J	FVB	Outbred	NOD	C57BL/6NCrl
\$1,650	\$2,050	\$1,900			
	\$2,422	\$2,115			\$2,200
	\$3,000	\$2,500			
	\$3,000		\$1,000		
	\$3,000	\$2,500			
\$1,900	\$3,100				
	\$3,150	\$2,890	\$2,625		
\$2,620	\$3,190	\$3,060			
\$2,600	\$3,200	\$2,800			
	\$3,500			\$3,500	
\$3,000	\$3,500				
\$2,500	\$3,500	\$2,500			
\$2,500	\$3,750				
\$3,500	\$4,000	\$4,000			
	\$4,295	\$3,697			
	\$4,410				
	\$4,500	\$1,500			
\$3,320	\$4,750				
\$4,854	\$4,854				
\$3,000	\$5,000				
\$3,000	\$5,000				
\$3,000	\$5,500	\$5,500			
\$725/day	\$1055/day	\$1525/day			
\$2,000		\$2,500			

If your fees do not vary by strain of egg donors, does your fee vary by performance guarantee (e.g., number of guaranteed transgenic mice)?

Total responses: 34

Yes: 3 (9%)

No: 30 (91%)

### **Blastocyst injection with ES cells**

Does your facility perform blastocyst injection of ES cells?

Total responses: 59

Yes: 55 (93%)

No: 4 (7%)

Do you have more than one fee for this service, for in-house clients?

Total responses: 53

Yes: 8 (15%)

No: 45 (85%)

If you charge a single fee, what is your fee?

Total responses: 47

For the 29 responses giving only a dollar figure, the range was \$500 to \$5000 and the average was \$2409.

The other responses consisted of a fee per day, per clone, or for a certain number of blastocysts. For the 8 responses giving a fee per day, the range was \$858 to \$2000 and the average was \$1126/day.

If you charge a single fee, how many chimeric mice do you guarantee to produce for this fee?

Total responses: 25

One chimera: 3 (12%)

Two chimeras: 6 (24%)

Three or more chimeras: 16 (64%)

A few facilities said they guarantee chimeras only if they do all of the ES cell culturing (including targeting).

If you charge a single fee, what is the maximum number of clones you will inject for this price?

Total responses: 43

One clone: 17 (40%)

Two clones: 14 (33%)  
Three clones: 6 (14%)  
Four clones: 1 (2%)  
Five clones: 1 (2%)  
not given: 4 (9%)

If you have more than one fee, does your fee vary by strain of blastocyst donors?

Total responses: 21  
Yes: 3 (14%)  
No: 18 (86%)

If your fees DO NOT vary by strain of blastocyst donors, does your fee vary by performance guarantee (e.g., number of guaranteed chimeric mice produced)?

Total responses: 35  
Yes: 6 (17%)  
No: 29 (83%)

## **Cryopreservation**

Does your facility perform cryopreservation of embryos and/or sperm for in-house clients?

Total responses: 56  
Yes: 40 (71%)  
No: 16 (29%)

What is your fee for cryopreservation of embryos?

Total responses: 29  
Range: 0 - \$3232  
Average: \$1050

Note: some fees were given as a cost per session or a cost per line. These are included above.

Does the fee include production of some live mice from some of the frozen embryos to demonstrate viability?

Total responses: 37  
Yes: 18 (49%)  
No: 19 (51%)

Do you guarantee to freeze a certain number of embryos?

Total responses: 39

Yes: 24 (62%)

No: 15 (38%)

Do you charge a separate fee to cover storage costs?

Total responses: 40

Yes: 16 (40%)

No: 24 (60%)

What is your fee for cryopreservation of sperm?

Total responses: 24

Range: 0 - \$1540

Average: \$435

Do you produce mice from some of the frozen sperm to demonstrate viability?

Total responses: 30

Yes: 8 (51%)

No: 22 (73%)

## **Rederivation by embryo transfer**

Does your facility perform rederivation for in-house clients?

Total responses: 56

Yes: 45 (80%)

No: 11 (20%)

What is your fee for rederiving a single strain of mice?

Total responses: 44

For the 39 responses listing a single fee, the range was zero to \$5172, with an average of \$915. The other 4 respondents gave a fee that depended on the number of foster mothers (ranging from \$23 to \$125 per recipient).

Does this fee include serology testing of the foster moms?

Total responses: 43

Yes: 14 (33%)

No: 29 (67%)

## **In Vitro Fertilization**

Does your facility perform in vitro fertilization for in-house clients?

Total responses: 55  
Yes: 21 (38%)  
No: 34 (62%)

What is your fee for IVF?

Total responses: 20  
For the 17 responses giving a single fee, the range was zero to \$2000, with an average of \$774.

Does this include any guarantees about the number of offspring produced?

Total responses: 21  
Yes: 3 (14%)  
No: 18 (86%)

## **Breeding**

Does your facility perform breeding for in-house clients?

Total responses: 58  
Yes: 29 (50%)  
No: 29 (50%)

Per diem fees for breeding (charge per cage per day):

Total responses giving a specific fee: 16  
Range: \$0.16 - \$1.46  
Average: \$0.60  
Some facilities charge different per diems for different cages, depending on the services performed. Others charge an hourly labor fee for weaning, tail-cutting, etc., with hourly fees ranging from \$30 to \$89.45.

## **Gene Targeting**

Does your facility perform gene targeting of ES cells?

Total responses: 58  
Yes: 41 (71%)

No: 17 (29%)

The gene targeting process was divided into 7 steps. For each step, respondents were asked if they performed this step. If so, they were asked to list either a single fee, a range of fees, or to state if their fee is based on materials and labor.

Facilities vary as to how they group these steps. For many respondents, two or more of the following steps are combined into a single service with one fee.

1. Making a targeting construct:

Total responses: 41

Do not perform: 34

Single fee: 4 (range: \$2200-\$4687, average: \$3856)

More than one fee: 3 (minimum/maximum fees were \$1293/\$6465, \$3150/\$4750, and \$18,568/\$25,329)

Materials and labor: zero

2. Electroporation, picking clones, and storing frozen clones:

Total responses: 37

Do not perform: zero

Single fee: 31 (range: \$1500-\$8073, average: \$3558)

More than one fee: 3 (min/max: \$4854/\$5453, \$2500/\$3400, \$4854/\$5453)

Materials and labor: 3

3. Preparing clone DNA:

Total responses: 35

Do not perform: 18

Single fee: 12 (4 of these gave a fee, ranging from \$480-\$3000 – the rest include this fee with another step, usually with the electroporation step, one facility charges nothing for this step)

More than one fee: 1 (no fee given)

Materials and labor: 4

4. Southern blotting of picked clones:

Total responses: 40

Do not perform: 31 (one of these does PCR screening only)

Single fee: 7 (For 5 of these responses, the range was \$1000-\$2100, with an average of \$1720. One facility charges \$900 plus cost of the restriction enzyme, and one charges \$650 per 100 clones.)

More than one fee: 1 (min/max = \$168/\$422)

Materials and labor: 1

5. Expanding positive clones:

Total responses: 39

Do not perform: 1

Single fee: 28 (15 of these apparently include the fee in another step. Another 8 gave a single price, with a range of \$150-\$750 and an average of \$423. Two respondents gave a fee per clone of \$150 and \$300.)

More than one fee: 4

Materials and labor: 6

6. Karyotyping (assumed to be a price per clone):

Total responses: 39

Do not perform: 19

Single fee: 17 (range: \$100-\$500, average: \$265)

More than one fee: 0

Materials and labor: 3

7. Secondary electroporation (e.g., to introduce Cre expression vector):

Total responses: 40

Do not perform: 13

Single fee: 20 (range: \$300-\$4000, average: \$1845)

More than one fee: 2 (min/max = \$1900/\$3800, \$400/\$900)

Materials and labor: 5