

AXOLOTL NEWS



THE AGSC HOSTS ITS FIRST AXOLOTL HUSBANDRY WORKSHOP

Eight participants from six different institutions traveled to Lexington for a two-day axolotl husbandry workshop hosted by the AGSC.

Topics of discussion included: AGSC colony history, axolotl biology and genetics, facility record-keeping, pathogen monitoring, disaster planning, axolotl husbandry at every life stage, water quality testing, anesthesia, euthanasia, and more!

Participants learned in a lecture-style setting before getting hands-on experience working with axolotls in the lab.

Thank you to all who attended! If you are interested in attending a future husbandry workshop, look out for emails from the AGSC, or check out our website at <https://ambystoma.uky.edu/genetic-stock-center/>

The AGSC is supported by the Spinal Cord and Brain Injury Research Center and College of Medicine at the University of Kentucky, and by a grant (P40-OD019794) from the Office of Research Infrastructure Programs at the National Institutes of Health.

MEET PENNY THE AGSC'S AXOLOTL OF THE MONTH



Penny is a copper axolotl.

The Voss lab has found that copper coloration is likely determined by a single nucleotide deletion in the *Tyrp1* coding sequence.

Tyrp1 encodes an enzyme that functions in melanophores to produce black pigment known as melanin.

Tyrp1 mutations are associated with decreased production of melanin and result in lighter than expected coloration.

Cecil, R.F., Strohl, L., Thomas, M.K. et al. *Tyrp1* is the mendelian determinant of the Axolotl (*Ambystoma mexicanum*) copper mutant. *Sci Rep* 14, 22399 (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-024-73283-1>

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AXOLOTL AVAILABILITY AT THE AGSC

Axolotls of all sizes, from embryo to adult, are available at the AGSC! Visit our website to place a custom order: <https://ambystoma.uky.edu/genetic-stock-center/>

Exciting News!

We are producing embryos weekly and are looking forward to being able to supply all of your lab's research needs.

WE SELL SUPPLIES!

- Axolotl pellets
- Brine shrimp eggs
- Brine shrimp hatchery
- Novaqua+
- Amquell+
- 100% Axolotl Rearing Water Salts



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