



Happy Spring!

At Shepherd, our focus remains clear: **advocating for research integrity and maintaining full transparency in material sourcing.** These principles continue to guide our decisions as we move through 2026 and beyond.

In biomedical research, consistency and traceability matter. That is why we remain committed to supplying materials that meet the highest standards for reliability and transparency.

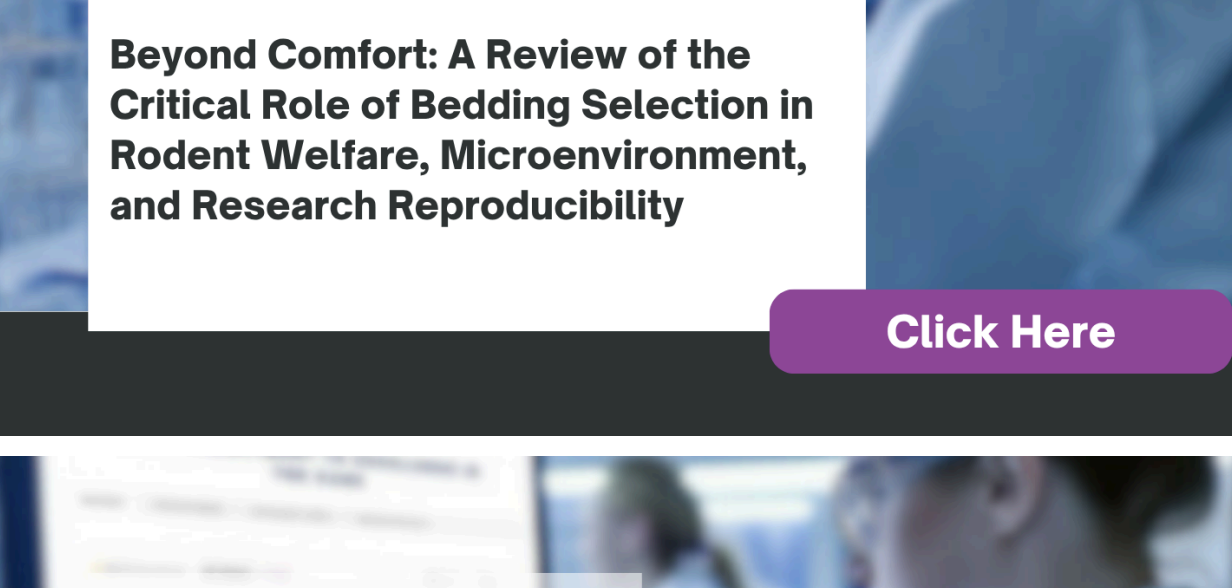
Our position is rooted in a simple belief: **the animals and the science deserve the highest quality.** By prioritizing material integrity and open communication about sourcing, we aim to support researchers with bedding solutions they can trust.

Because better materials help support **better research.**

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Please note that our offices will be closed on the following dates this quarter:
Friday, April 3rd & Monday, May 25th.



Transparency Matters

**JAALAS
AHEAD OF PRINT**

In Case You Missed It...

Beyond Comfort: A Review of the Critical Role of Bedding Selection in Rodent Welfare, Microenvironment, and Research Reproducibility

[Click Here](#)

bioRxiv
THE PREPRINT SERVER FOR BIOLOGY

In Case You Missed It...

Corncob Bedding Negatively Impacts Breeding Performance and Sexual Development in Mice

[Click Here](#)

PAPER IS NOT PAPER

Bedding Type	Test	Result
ALPHA-dri®	Absorbency - Whole Product (ISO 11948-1)	327 g of fluid (554% of its own weight)
Reclaimed/Pre-consumer Paper	Absorbency - Whole Product (ISO 11948-1)	136 g of fluid (186% of its own weight)
ALPHA-dri®	Brightness (ANSI/TAPPI T 525)	87.6/100
Reclaimed/Pre-Consumer Paper	Brightness (ANSI/TAPPI T 525)	64.3/100
ALPHA-dri®	Pfas Chemical Test (EPA 537 IDA)	Non-Detect
Reclaimed/Pre-Consumer Paper	Pfas Chemical Test (EPA 537 IDA)	PFOS Result: 1,500 PPT

[Contact Us](#)

Shepherd is getting a new purpose-built production space.

Built on High Standards. Raised even higher.

- ✓ A brand new production facility
- ✓ Expanded production capabilities to support high-volume conversions
- ✓ Expanded space for greater control and scalability
- ✓ Dedicated clean room environment
- ✓ Increased consistency across every batch
- ✓ Strengthened quality control processes
- ✓ Designed to support even greater research reliability

NO LABELS. JUST INSTINCT.

At first glance, which one of these bedding substrates looks more suitable for research?

This or That

WE ASKED. YOU ANSWERED.

Notable Findings

ALPHA-dri® appears frequently in research publications where a clean, low dust, consistent, virgin paper bedding is important, for example in metabolic, intestinal, behavioral, environmental monitoring, and thermoregulatory research.

National Library of Medicine
National Center for Biotechnology Information

Beyond Comfort: A Review of the Critical Role of Bedding Selection in Rodent Welfare, Microenvironment, and Research Reproducibility
[read more](#)

ACS Publications
Most Trusted. Most Cited. Most Read.

Bedding as a variable affecting fasting blood glucose and vascular physiology in mice
[read more](#)

UCSF Health
Clinical Laboratories

Research Mice On ALPHA-dri®
UCSF researchers discover molecular timer that regulates pregnancy length
[read more](#)

Princeton Neuroscience Institute

First brain-wide map of decision-making charted in mice
[read more](#)

Employee Spotlight

J.D. BRATTEN- MAINTENANCE MANAGER

J.D. joined the team almost 2 years ago and currently serves as the maintenance supervisor at our manufacturing plant. He oversees machinery and fabrication operations. His main focus is troubleshooting, problem-solving, and ensuring our equipment runs efficiently and reliably. He takes pride in finding solutions, improving processes and supporting the team to keep production running smoothly.

WHAT FICTIONAL CHARACTER WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE?

Optimus Prime- I have always been fascinated by transformers

WHAT'S THE BEST PIECE OF ADVICE YOU'VE EVER RECEIVED?

The lord never closes a door without opening another

IF YOU COULD EAT ONE TYPE OF CUISINE FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Pizza of course

WHAT'S SOMETHING ON YOUR BUCKET LIST THAT YOU'RE DETERMINED TO CHECK OFF?

Learn to play golf. It sounds fun.

THREE WORDS THAT BEST DESCRIBE YOU:

Reliable, honest, listener.

Shepherd On The Road

Out & About With Our Peeps!

Houston Cook-Off/ Rodeo

Upcoming Events

April

District 8 Meeting
LAMA/ATA Meeting
District 5 Meeting
NEBAALAS @ night

May

3 R's Sharing Conference
QUAD Symposium

June

MSMR Enrichment Symposium
NRMB AALAS
District 6 Conference

RESILIENCE

SAVE THE DATE

QUAD 2026

MAY 13-MAY 15

**REIMAGINE
RISE**

Industry Partners

3RC The 3Rs Collaborative

NA3R5C
The National Association 3 R's Collaborative aims to improve animals lives, reduce their numbers while maintaining robust results, and replace them when scientifically appropriate...
[Read more →](#)

Episodes — GetReal!
GetReal! lays out the facts so you have the power to make informed decisions about the future health of your loved ones - both people and animals.
[Listen here →](#)

BRAD
Biomedical Research Awareness Day (BRAD) is an international outreach program through AMP that seeks to increase public awareness about animal roles in biomedical research...
[Read more →](#)

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

Shepherd manufactures high quality, virgin cellulose bedding for biomedical research, with a focus on research integrity and full transparency in material sourcing.

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