

Fig. II

An animal's foot No. 11.

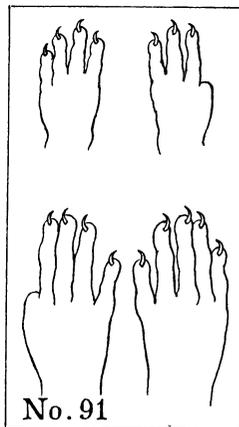


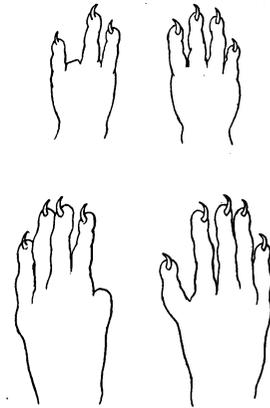
Fig. III

An animal's foot No. 91.

front toes and the units on the hind toes. For instance, No. 20 would be made by clipping the first toe on the left forefoot; No. 21 by clipping the first toe on the left forefoot and the first toe on the left hind foot. No. 56 would be made by clipping the fourth toe on the left forefoot and the great toe on the right hind foot. No. 91 (Fig. 3) would be the last toe on the right forefoot and the first toe on the left hind foot.

By using all the toes we can bring the numbers up to 99. No. 100 is made by punching a small hole in the ear with a small metal punch. One punched hole designates rat No. 100. No. 171 would be obtained by making one hole in the ear, clipping the second toe on the right forefoot and the first toe on the left hind foot. No. 271 is designated by two holes in the ear with the same clipped toes. Rat No. 571 would have five holes in the ears with the same toes. The ears, if the holes are placed carefully, will permit from four to five in each. Four will prove to be quite satisfactory. The punched holes heal quite promptly as definite perforations or holes unless they are made too close to the head; in that case they will be apt to close almost completely. No. 1,000 is signified by notches made in the margin of the ear. These can be done with the same punch. Care must be taken to punch the margin deeply enough so that healing will give clear-cut notches. No. 1,171 would be represented by 1 notch, 1 hole, and by clippings on the second toe of the right forefoot and the first toe of the left hind foot. No. 5,283 would be shown by 5 notches, 2 holes, and by a clipping of the third toe on the right forefoot and the third toe on the left hind foot, respectively. The notches, the holes and the toes carry the numbers up to 10,000.

No. 10,000 is made by clipping about half an inch off the tail. After this clipping, the same method with the toes and ears is used again. No. 11,235 (see Fig. 4) is represented by a clipped tail, 2 holes and 1



No. 11,235

Fig. IV

Toes, ears and tail of animal No. 11,235.

notch in the ear and the clipping of the second toe of the left forefoot and the fifth toe of the left hind foot.

This system has been used for a colony of 13,000 animals and found quite satisfactory. It was possible to recognize the number of any animal which had escaped from the cage and by reference to the records to put it back into its proper place.

Rabbits and guinea pigs may be numbered in the same way.

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