

Food Intake Monitor

The BioDAQ Food Intake Monitor measures ad libitum food consumption episodically as it occurs. The Data Viewer allows real time data analysis. Adaptable for use with standard experimental cage formats for both rats and mice.



BioDAQ automatically measures and records the undisturbed, moment-to-moment, bout-by-bout food intake and feeding behavior of singly housed rats and mice in their home cage-- 24/7.

Accurate

The unique hopper design allows for minimal spillage and hoarding of pelleted diets. Gated food hoppers mount outside the home cage for ease of use. A tray at the bottom of the hopper captures crumbs to ensure accurate measurement of food intake.

Home cage environment

Specially modified plastic shoebox style cages minimize stress on the animal and shorten the instrument acclimation period. Cages available for both rat and mouse.

Saves Space

The BioDAQ requires less laboratory space than other systems. Complete 16 cage systems fit on low vibration Metro racks measuring 18 x 36 for mouse and 24 x 48 for a rat. Turnkey systems are available in multiples of 8, 16, 32 cages.

Interchangeable

The electronics and unplugged adapters are interchangeable between both rat and mouse hardware. You can acclimate one species and monitor the other simultaneously.

Computer Monitored Food Consumption

BioDAQ continuously monitors feeding activity at the interface of the food hopper. The system records the time of onset of each feeding bout, the amount of food consumed, the duration of the bout, and the ending time. Variable settings allow the investigator to fine tune data collection at the level of the experiment.

Automatically Collects Data

The system can operate without the need to re-fill food hoppers for up to 5 days for the typical singly housed lab rat or mouse. This allows food intake data to be collected automatically without disturbing the animals normal eating behavior.

Real Time Graphics and Analysis

The Data Viewer provides a graphic and tabular representation of real time feeding activity. The flexible user-friendly program format allows investigators to evaluate cumulative intake, meal patterns, meal size, duration, frequency, and post meal intervals with the click of a mouse, in relation to the time of day and light cycles. Animals can be grouped by treatment producing summary tables with basic statistical analysis. Tables can be exported to Excel for user defined analyses.





Food Intake Monitor

The BioDAQ Unplugged food intake monitor is ideally suited for rat and mouse studies where periodic weighings (hourly, daily, weekly) are sufficient. The simple home cage design affords ease of use, accurate food intake measurements and is easily upgraded to an electronic BioDAQ system.



Upgrade to electronics

When more precise episodic food intake measurements are required, BioDAQ electronics can be added. The computer controlled system will monitor the moment to moment food intake of your study groups automatically, without human interaction, providing you with undisturbed feeding activity data.



The BioDAQ electronics mount directly in place of the Unplugged adaptor plate.

Easy to use

Gated food hoppers mount outside the home cage for ease of use. Simply lift the hopper off the cage mount to weigh the contents on a scale. The quick release mounting system removes easily for cage wash.



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Saves Time

Compared to other methods, the weighing process is simplified. The gate closes easily to block feeding access. The hopper is removed and placed on a scale for quick, accurate weighing.



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