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Montana State University receives U.S. Public Health Service grant for central optic system research

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FOR RELEASE WEDNESDAY, MAY 31

Montana State University has received a U. S. Public Health Service grant of \$14,565 to support a study of the central optic system of microphthalmic rats, Dr. P. L. Wright, chairman of the zoology department, announced. The research will be directed by Dr. Ludvig G. Browman of the zoology faculty.

Because there is an analogy between causes of blindness in rats and in humans, results of the current study can contribute to understanding of human blindness, according to Dr. Wright. He noted that Dr. Browman has been studying blindness in rats for many years and his findings in the field have been published in scientific journals all over the world.

The colony of rats used in the research is the only one of its kind in the world, Dr. Wright said. Dr. Browman developed the strain of blind rats from a single female he found in 1935 and now maintains a colony of 70 to 80 for research and teaching purposes.

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