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### Montana State University awarded U.S. Public Health Service National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness research grant

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Montana State University has received a \$12,397 research grant from the U. S. Public Health Service National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness to support a study of the central optic system of microphthalmic rats, reports Dr. P. L. Wright, chairman of the MSU Zoology Department.

The research is directed by Dr. Ludvig G. Browman, professor of zoology, and Dr. George W. Bartelmez, guest investigator in zoology.

Results of the study can contribute to better understanding of human blindness because an analogy exists between causes of blindness in rats and in humans, the researchers said.

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

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