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| Address | **Rodent Control Environmental Risk Assessment Form** | Logo |

READ THE ATTACHED ADVISORY NOTES BEFORE YOU CARRY OUT AN ASSESSEMENT

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| **Before the ERA** | Name of Site and Address: |  | |
| Name of Client and/or Client's site representative: |  | |
| Contract no: |  | |
| Name of Assessor: |  | |
| Date of Assessment: |  | |
| **The Infestation** | Carry out a site survey and provide the document reference. | Document ref: …………………………………… | |
| Were environmental risks noted during the survey? If yes identify the risks and, if appropriate complete a separate ERA. Complete the remainder of this form if the answer is yes. | Yes / No | |
| Is there a current rodent infestation? | **Rat:** Yes / No | **Mouse:** Yes / No |
| Is the rodent infestation situated only indoors and will baits only be placed indoors? | Yes / No | |
| Is there a significant risk to human health or animal health presented by a possible future infestation? | Take into account both domestic and wild animals.  Yes / No | |
| Will long-term baiting be necessary? | Yes / No | |
| If ‘yes’ give the reference to the document showing justification: | Document ref: …………………………………… | |
| **Risk Hierarchy** | Why is it necessary to use a rodenticide at this site? Why can’t the situation be resolved by other methods, such as improving hygiene and preventing rodent ingress to sensitive areas or traps?  Have these issues been discussed with the client? | State client actions taken to prevent rodent ingress and hygiene procedures. | |
| If you intend to use Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides  (SGARs) and not First Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides  (FGARs) explain why. |  | |

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| **Sensitive areas** | List any protected species that may be present in the area to be treated. |  |
| **Products** | Give product name, active ingredient and HSE Authorisation Numbers (shown on product labels) for all products to be used. Or alternatively have you provided CoSHH assessments for the products being used? |  |
| **The ERA\*** | Provide a list of all environmental risks you perceive to be present at the site: |  |
| Provide a list of all the measures you will use during rodenticide application at the site to reduce the risks you have identified: |  |
| **Disposal of rodent carcasses** | How often will you search for rodent carcasses? |  |
| Will others on site also search for rodent carcasses? | Yes / No |
| What measures will you use to safely dispose of rodent carcasses? |  |
| **Disposal of spent bait** | How will you dispose of spent bait? |  |
| **Conclusion** | With due consideration to the information recorded above, can this treatment safely proceed without unacceptable damage to wildlife and the environment? | Yes / No |

\* If there is insufficient room in the boxes provided use additional sheets and secure them to this sheet.

**Technician’s Signature Client’s Signature Date**

# ADVISARY NOTES

# Rodent control - Environmental risk assessment

It is good practice to conduct an environmental risk assessment when a risk to the environment has been identified during the site survey.

This assessment will consider the following:

* What is the treatment designed to achieve, what methods of rodent control may be used and how will success be measured?
* Which protected species may be present in or near the treatment site?
* What risks to non-target species have been identified?
* Summarize the steps taken to prevent, or adequately control, exposure of wildlife and the environment.
* What are the facilities for the safe disposal of dead rodents and rodenticides?
* What steps will be taken by the site management during the treatment process?
* What follow up measures are required?
* What steps should be taken to prevent re-infestation after treatment?
* What advice will you give to the client regarding the above?

It is good practice to record this assessment in writing.

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| Risk hierarchy | Comments |
| **Efficacy** – The principal consideration must be the suitability of measures selected efficiently to achieve the results required to reduce or remove rodents. Efficacy data may be available in the public domain or obtained from manufacturers. |  |
| **Proofing** - measures to prevent the ingress of rodents into buildings provide a long-term solution to rodent problems and are usually without adverse impacts. These measures should always be implemented. Consideration of other species, eg bats, should be taken into account. |  |
| **Denial of food and water** - The use of rodent-proof bins and close-fitting doors, are unlikely to affect non target species. |  |
| **Housekeeping deterrents** - In order to deter rodent infestations, sites should be cleared of all debris, rubbish, old machinery and equipment, unwanted stores of straw and hay etc. Vegetation should be cleared from around buildings to provide an open perimeter to immediate surroundings, so that natural predators can take rodents. If possible, areas around buildings may be laid to concrete, or other hard surfaces, to prevent rodent burrowing. |  |
| **Trapping** - Any animals taken can be removed from the site and obviously there are no chemical residues. However, if not done properly trapping may have a detrimental impact on non-target animals, when these are accidently taken as ‘by-catch’. An environmental assessment will determine the likely extent of this risk. |  |
| **Glue (sticky) boards** - Glue (or sticky) boards present few non-target risks when they are used indoors for rat and mouse control; however, they should only be considered as a last resort due to animal welfare considerations. |  |

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| **Alphachloralose** - The acute rodenticide alphachloralose may be used only indoors for the control of house mice. Among chemical methods of rodent control, and when applied correctly, it may be considered to present few risks to humans and non-target animals. |  |
| **Phosphine gas** - Provided care is exercised to ensure that fumigated burrows are only occupied by target rodents, the use of products that emit the toxic gas phosphine are unlikely to have primary non-target impacts. There is also no likelihood of secondary toxicity.  However, these products carry significant risk to those transporting and applying them and current advice to users is as follows: - Assess the risk to yourself, others and the environment prior to commencing work and adopt the necessary operational and engineering controls appropriate for the work or substitute the control measure for a physical or less toxic method (COSHH/risk assessment). A specific risk assessment must be carried out before using this method/material. |  |
| **First-generation anticoagulants** - First-generation anticoagulants, warfarin, chlorophacinone and coumatetralyl, are less acutely toxic and are less persistent in animal tissues than the second-generation compounds. It may be assumed that they present a lower risk of both primary and secondary poisoning for non-target animals in most use situations. Therefore, their use is to be preferred over the use of the second-generation compounds against Norway rats in those areas where there is no resistance to them. Do not use against mice due to high resistance levels. |  |
| **Second-generation anticoagulants** - The second-generation anticoagulants, brodifacoum, bromadiolone, difethialone, difenacoum and flocoumafen, are acutely toxic and have long biological half-lives. Therefore, in the ‘risk hierarchy’ they present the greatest risk to non-target animals and the environment. They should be used only when other methods of achieving rodent control have been carefully considered and found to be unable to provide an effective solution to the rodent pest problem present at the site. |  |