



Carried out by (technician's name):	Client name or name of representative on site:
On behalf of (company name):	Client Company:
Date:	Address:
Report No:	

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WHEN USING ANTICOAGULANT RODENTICIDES ¹

An Environmental Assessment is conducted when a decision has been made that an application of an anticoagulant rodenticide is required, either to remove an existing rodent infestation or to prevent one from becoming established. This document provides a suggested format for such an assessment and may be modified if necessary.

The purpose of an Environmental Assessment is to determine possible environmental impacts of anticoagulant applications and to identify measures necessary to protect wildlife and the wider environment. The Killgerm guide to environmental assessments when using rodenticides should be consulted for further guidance (www.killgerm.environmental/assessment).

The main considerations of an Environmental Assessment are:

1. What are the rodent problems and where are they?
2. What is the treatment designed to achieve, what methods of rodent control will be used and how will success be measured?
3. Which protected species may be present in or near the treatment site?
4. What risks to non-target species have been identified?
5. Summarise the steps taken to prevent, or adequately control, exposure of wildlife and the environment
6. What are the facilities for the safe disposal of dead rodents and rodenticides?
7. What is expected from the client (i.e. the owner or occupier of the infested premises/area)?
8. What follow up measures are required?
9. What environmental management measures are appropriate?

¹This document is provided for advice to qualified professional pest controllers by the Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use (CRRU). CRRU accepts no responsibility for the application of any rodenticide product used on the site that is the subject of an Environmental Assessment as proposed here. Note that this document provides no advice about risk to human health, which must be considered separately.

1. Where are the rodent problems and what are they?

Identify the extent and distribution of the target rodent species by undertaking a site survey that includes the whole of the area that is likely to require treatment. Also look at nearby areas that might be affected by the intended use of rodenticides. A site plan is an essential requirement and should be appended to this document.

Notes:

2. What is the treatment designed to achieve, what methods of rodent control will be used and how will success be measured?

The aims of the treatment may be to:

- Entirely to eliminate a current infestation
- Achieve a satisfactory and acceptable level of control that may fall short of complete elimination of all rodents
- Prevent future rodent problems

Decisions on the methods of rodent control should include:

- The types of bait or baits to be used
- Active ingredients contained in the chosen bait(s) (product name, HSE/MAPP number)
- Positions of bait points and how they will be protected from non-target animals and human interference
- Schedule for site visits to check baits and pick up rodent bodies
- Identifying site changes and circumstances that may influence environmental risks
- Responding to bait takes by non-target species e.g. field mice, voles and grey squirrels

Notes:

3. Which protected species may be present at or near the treatment site?

Obtain up-to-date information by:

- Drawing together available background knowledge and information of the specific and general areas
- Discussing with the client, site management or others using a series of specific questions
- Carrying out a complete survey of the premise, site or other location
- If in doubt consult local offices of Natural England or local Wildlife Trusts

Is the site, or any part of it, included in or close to any of the following?

- Local Nature Reserve (LNR)
- Marine Nature Reserve (MNR)
- National Nature Reserve (NNR)
- Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
- Special Protection Area (SPA)

Notes:

4. What risks to non-target species have been identified?

Identify the risks, both primary and secondary, to any non-target species that may be present and where these risks occur, using the following or other relevant headings:

- a) Predatory birds
- b) Predatory mammals
- c) Other mammals and birds
- d) Domestic and companion animals

Notes:

5. Summarise the steps taken to prevent, or adequately control, exposure of wildlife and the environment

Give full consideration to the species at risk identified above. For each species decide what measures should be adopted at the site to minimise risk of exposure to the rodenticide(s) used.

For example;

- Choose which rodenticide products to use so as to present the minimum acceptable level of risk to non-target animals and to the environment, This consideration involves both the bait and the active ingredient it contains.
- Visit the site frequently during the treatment,
- Search for and remove rodent carcasses each time the site is visited and dispose of them correctly,
- Use tamper resistant bait stations or natural cover to protect the bait from access by non-target species,
- Remove bait if there is evidence of take by non-target species,
- Remove bait from the treated area after control is achieved,
- Use non-toxic monitoring bait where applicable.

Notes:

6. What are the facilities for the safe disposal of dead rodents and rodenticide

Take account of the Environment Agency position statement and preferred disposal options. These are in the order of preference:

- Disposal via on farm small carcass incinerators (regulated under the Animal By-product Regulation);
- Removal along with other waste as part of the domestic waste collection round (subject to local authority agreement);
- Disposal off site at a suitably authorised incinerator or landfill; or where this is not possible,
- Burial on site provided this is done away from sensitive areas and in line with the Code of Practice for the Protection of Water.

Describe the method(s) to be used and provide any additional information on carcass search procedures

Notes:

7. What is expected from the client (i.e. the owner or occupier of the infested premises/area);

Consider under the following headings:

- To be aware of the treatment action being taken and the role that they play in maintaining safe and effective procedures
- To take appropriate action if bait becomes exposed or points are disturbed
- To liaise with the technician regarding site changes or other aspects that could alter the environmental risk status of the treatment.
- Action to take on discovering rodent carcasses
- Action to take regarding incidents involving non-target animals

Notes:

8. What post-treatment follow up measures are required.

These include:

- Remove as far as practicable all remaining bait at the end of the treatment and dispose of it safely
- Carry out a final search for rodent carcasses following removal of the bait
- Encourage the occupier/client to monitor for future signs of infestation or provide this as part of a contract so that developing problems can be addressed at an early stage
- Consider whether the use of non-toxic bait use should form part of this monitoring procedure

Notes:

9. What environmental management measures are appropriate?

When the rodent infestation has been controlled to the level required, consider measures that will render the site less liable to future rodent infestation under the following headings:

- a) Modifying or eliminating actual and potential harbourages
- b) Clearance of materials that could provide attraction for rodents
- c) Undertaking proofing or other measures aimed at denying access to rodents including faulty drainage systems and features that could provide secure movement routes
- d) Reducing or preventing access to food sources and supplies

Leave written instructions to the owner or occupier of the site about these recommended measures.

Notes:

With due consideration to the information recorded above, can this treatment safely proceed without unacceptable damage to wildlife and the environment?

YES / NO

If NO, provide an explanation and detail any recommended actions or other measures.

Name of Pest Control Technician: _____ Signature _____ Date ____/____/____

Name of Customer or Customer's representative at the site: _____ Signature _____ Date ____/____/____

Having completed this Environmental Assessment you should:

- Provide a copy of the completed assessment to the customer or other person with responsibility for the treatment site.
- Keep a record for future reference and as a demonstration that these aspects have been considered and acted upon where appropriate.
- Ask the customer to sign both copies of the Environmental Assessment.

During the course of the treatment period, if there are any significant or relevant changes to the site conditions or circumstances then this assessment should be reviewed, amended as necessary and appropriate actions taken.

Ready-to-Use Rodenticidal Bait

Containing brodifacoum, bromadiolone, chlorophacinone, coumatetralyl, difenacoum, difethialone, flocoumafen and warfarin. Application rate: as specified on the product label.

<p>WILDLIFE</p> <p>Birds of Prey Scavenging birds Other birds Wild mammals</p>	<p>WILD MAMMALS AND BIRDS MAY BE AT RISK WHEN THIS PRODUCT IS USED.</p> <p>Wild mammals and birds will be at risk if they feed directly on the bait. Use protected bait stations that exclude animals larger than the target pests to reduce this risk.</p> <p>Wild mammals and birds will be at risk if they eat dead or dying rodents that have eaten this product. Search for and remove any dead or dying rodents during site visits and dispose of the carcasses safely by an approved method (see below).</p> <p>Visit baited sites frequently to make sure that baits remain secure and to search for and remove dead or dying rodents.</p> <p>Low-level residues of rodenticides have been detected in a wide range of wildlife species. The possible impact of these residues is a cause of concern. Proper use of products in accordance with the label, and these instructions will help to minimise the exposure of wildlife to rodenticides.</p>
<p>SOIL AND GROUNDWATER</p>	<p>Use bait trays and bait stations to reduce soil contact. If soil contact does occur, (i.e. during burrow baiting) the product has low mobility in soil and is not taken up by plants.</p> <p>Avoid contamination of watercourses. This product is of low water solubility and has very low mobility in soil; it presents negligible risk to groundwater.</p>
<p>BAITING STRATEGY</p>	<p>It is important that the label instructions are followed. A quick and efficient baiting programme is important to keep risks to non-target animals to a minimum. Overbaiting, underbaiting, not protecting bait adequately and leaving bait down for long periods increases the risks to wildlife.</p> <p>During treatments, you must search for rodent bodies at each site visit. Dispose of rodent bodies safely by an approved method (see below). Rodent bodies may be found away from baiting points and wherever the baited rodent infestation is active.</p>
<p>CLEARING UP</p>	<p>When rodents have been satisfactorily controlled (which is normally within 14-28 days but should be no longer than 35 days), it is most important that all bait is cleared away. If the condition of the bait is such that it cannot be re-used it must be disposed of safely by an approved method (see below).</p>
<p>GAMEKEEPERS AND OTHER USERS OF RODENTICIDES IN THE COUNTRYSIDE Use away from buildings (e.g. pheasant pens etc.)</p>	<p>Wildlife is at particular risk when these products are used away from buildings (e.g. in hedgerows and around pheasant rearing pens). Prevent the risk by using alternative methods of rodent control whenever and wherever feasible. When baiting, apply bait directly into burrows or use bait stations that exclude animals larger than the target rodents, keep the duration of treatments to a minimum and remove all bait and bait stations from the site at the end of the treatment.</p> <p>Note: products containing brodifacoum, difethialone and flocoumafen should only be used indoors. ¹</p>
<p>DISPOSAL OF RODENT BODIES AND SPENT BAIT ²</p>	<p>Amateur users may dispose of rodent bodies and spent bait in the domestic waste stream, i.e. securely bagged in a dustbin or wheelie bin.</p> <p>For professional users the controlled waste stream should generally be used.</p> <p>For farmers and professionals working on farms, one of the following methods of disposal should be used, in this order of preference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disposal via on farm small carcass incinerators (regulated under the Animal By-product Regulation); • Removal along with other waste as part of the domestic waste collection round (subject to local authority agreement); • Disposal off site at a suitably authorised incinerator or landfill; or where this is not possible, • Burial on site provided this is done away from sensitive areas and in line with the Code of Practice for the Protection of Water.

¹ Situations where the bait is placed within a building or other enclosed structure and where the target is living or feeding predominantly within that building or structure; and behind closed doors.

If rodents living outside a building can move freely to where the bait is laid within the building, then products containing brodifacoum/difethialone/flocoumafen should NOT be used. Open barns or buildings and tamper-resistant bait stations placed in open areas are not classified as indoors. However, sewers or closed drains are considered to be 'indoors situations'.

² If in doubt about appropriate methods of disposal contact your local office of the Environment Agency.