PestControl news®
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The Magazine for the Pest Control Industry
June 2015

Photo - Richard Mills

# A GUIDE TO CRRU APPROVED CERTIFICATION FOR RODENTICIDE USE

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June 2015 103

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Published quarterly reaching over 26,000 readers.

**UK editor**
Sadie Baldwin

**Technical editor**
Matthew Davies

In order faithfully to reflect opinion within the Pest Control Industry PCN relies on information and correspondence.

**News, articles, letters and editorial are always welcome!**

Please address any of the above to:
**Pest Control News Limited,**
PO Box 2, Ossett,
West Yorkshire WF5 9NA.
**tel:** 01924 268400
**fax:** 01924 264646
**e-mail:** editor@pestcontrolnews.com
technical@pestcontrolnews.com

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# In this issue...

**9 -** Fly infestations hit pig and poultry production

**22 -Making a mountain out of a molehill?**

# DEE IS NEW FACE AT LEADING TRADE BODY

**THE British Pest Control Association has appointed a new Technical Manager.**

Dee Ward-Thompson joined the team in April. She was previously UK technical manager at member company OCS Cannon and before that Operational Quality and Food Safety Manager for Mars, with a remit to manage pest control.

Dee, aged 47, said, "My working life started as a pig farmer so working around rats was an everyday occurrence.

"Pest control was a new and exciting career change for me, the first time I attended a training course I came away with a desire to learn more, which grew with every course I attended.

"After seven years in the industry, my passion and interest has grown and each day is still as exciting as the first.

"Having been both a client and a servicing company, I'm keen to play an instrumental part in driving the industry forward and supporting our members."

Dee's key responsibilities are around technical support for BPCA members, handling technical queries for the public and assisting clients with tendering and specification writing.

She will also represent the BPCA, help produce best practice documents or draft legislation and lobby to represent members' interests.


# TWO NEW FACES AT Killgerm®

www.killgerm.com

## LAURENCE BARNARD

Killgerm is pleased to announce that Laurence Barnard has been appointed the new Area Sales Manager for the East Midlands and East Anglia.

Having spent the last three years working for the British Pest Control Association as the Marketing and Communications officer, Laurence is no stranger to the industry and is used to being at the forefront of industry knowledge.

Laurence commented on his new role with Killgerm, "I look forward to this new challenge. I have always enjoyed and thrived on opportunities where I can spend time with pest control companies, technicians and company owners 'on the ground".


## MELVIN KNAPP

Melvin Knapp joins Killgerm as Technical Manager (South), taking over from Duncan Bosomworth, who left at the end of November last year.

Melvin has worked for Rokill for the past 9 years, latterly as a Field Biologist, and has a wealth of experience in the various pest control disciplines. He lives in Gosport, Hampshire with his wife and daughter and is a keen member of a pipe band as well as playing the bagpipes!

The primary function of this role will be to deliver training courses in pest control best practice following the Killgerm training ethos, industry codes of practice and legislation within the South of England at numerous venues. Courses vary from entry level through to RSPH level 2 and are designed to support continual professional development in the public health pest control industry. Melvin's role will also involve undertaking field biologist inspections/audits for customers as well as providing technical advice and support where required.

Bayer

## BAYER CROPSCIENCE HAS APPOINTED A NEW TECHNICAL MANAGER FOR ITS PROFESSIONAL PEST CONTROL BUSINESS

Richard Moseley joins from the British Pest Control Association, where he was technical manager, a position he had held for the past seven years. His role with BPCA included directing technical and training matters, developing policy with major retail and legislative bodies, and implementing training packages and solutions in the UK, Europe and Asia.

Previously he has fulfilled roles as a pest control technician for Terminix, and as a field biologist for Ecolab. This is a new role at Bayer CropScience, and confirms the business's commitment to growth within the pest control business.

In Richard's new position he will be responsible for supporting the latest product from Bayer, Racumin® Foam, a first generation rodenticide, developed in a unique water-based foam formulation which is delivered by an aerosol. "I'm really looking forward to the challenge of working with the Bayer team and an exciting portfolio of products," said Richard.

Bayer's Head of Sales, Alan Morris, is confident Richard will be a valuable addition to the team. "Richard is a great addition to the company and brings a wealth of knowledge and practical expertise in these exciting times at Bayer." Richard took up his new post on 11th May.

## NEW APPROVED COURSE FOR STEWARDSHIP CERTIFICATION

Two courses gaining new approved status are RSPH Safe Use of Rodenticides and Rat Control for Gamekeepers, while CRRU Wildlife Aware gained approved status as an update. "The latter two are accredited by BASIS. An important distinction," explains CRRU chairman Dr Alan Buckle, "is that Wildlife Aware is not a stand-alone certificate, but serves as a custom-made update."

"Wildlife Aware with BASIS accreditation is particularly suited to those holding a certificate in the grandfather or current list that pre-dates the years in brackets," he explains (see the table on page 7). "In this situation, an approved top up is compulsory to attain stewardship proof-of-competence. In addition to this, Wildlife Aware is also designed for all pest controllers who want to ensure voluntarily they are at the forefront of best practice."

More training courses will be considered by the CRRU Training and Certification Work Group in future.

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# STORMIN' LONDONERS **WIN** AT PESTEX

BASF
We create chemistry

London pest controllers showed their pre-eminent 'small circuit' racing skills to claim victory in the Formula Storm Scalextric racing game at Pestex. Hudi Coleman of First Defence Pest Control Ltd and Paul Brown of Pest Free 24/7 (pictured) – both from north of the Thames – took the chequered flag in stormin' style with 26.94 and 28.16 second race times respectively.

They each won £100 Red Letter Days from BASF to relax from the day-to-day pressures of modern urban pest control.

# A guide to CRRU approved certification for rodenticide use

**NOW THAT THE CAMPAIGN FOR RESPONSIBLE RODENTICIDE USE (CRRU) HAS ANNOUNCED THE TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SGAR STEWARDSHIP REGIME, PCN IS ABLE TO EXPLAIN FURTHER SOME DETAILS REGARDING "APPROVED CERTIFICATION" FOR RODENTICIDE USE. FIRSTLY, A REMINDER IS REQUIRED. THIS IS WHAT IT IS ALL ABOUT:**

HSE intend to authorise anticoagulant rodenticides for sale and professional use under the terms of the proposed industry Stewardship Regime, adherence to which will be set as a condition of authorisation, including a requirement that labels bear the phrase *'For supply to and use only by professional users holding certification demonstrating that they have been trained according to the UK second generation anticoagulant rodenticide (SGAR) stewardship programme requirements.'*

## WHEN DOES THIS COME INTO PLACE?

Well, according to an Information Document published by the HSE in January this year, from 1 June 2016 only holders of an approved certificate will be able to buy professional SGAR products.

## EXPLAINING THE TABLE OF APPROVED CERTIFICATION (pg. 7)

**Grandfathered certification** listed in the table is approved as issued in the time periods indicated, without a specific requirement for upgrade into approved status. *(In simple terms, if the course you have taken is listed in the table, under the heading "Grandfather certification", and you were issued certification during the dates that are given in the brackets, then you are able to buy professional use rodenticides after 1st June 2016 and you are classed as having "Approved Certification").*

**Current certification** listed in this table is approved as issued in the time periods indicated, without a specific requirement for upgrade into approved status. *(Again in simple terms, if the course you have taken is listed in the table, under the heading "Current certification", and you were issued certification during the dates that are given in the brackets, then you are able to buy professional use rodenticides after 1st June 2016 and you are classed as having "Approved Certification")*

**'Time-expired'** means the certification was issued prior to the time period indicated in the table. *(Look at the dates given in the brackets; if your certification was issued before the dates given in the brackets then it has time-expired and you need to take action).*

**The Wildlife Aware update certification** is approved to allow necessary upgrade of approved certification that is 'time-expired' but only with current Wildlife Aware / BASIS accreditation. So, holding a Wildlife Aware Certificate and accreditation updates time-expired certification to approved status. *(Trying to make this simple; if the course you have taken is listed in the table BUT your certification is outside of the dates listed in the brackets, you are able to update your certification to become an "Approved Certification" holder by taking the Wildlife Aware course, run by CRRU. That is not all: once you have completed the Wildlife Aware Course and exam you become a CRRU/BASIS Wildlife Aware Accredited Technician, you MUST keep your accreditation up-to-date by paying the annual fee in order to remain an "Approved Certification" holder. By being an "Approved Certification" holder you will be able to buy professional use rodenticides after the 1st June 2016.)*

The Wildlife Aware update certification is also recommended, for those who feel they want to update themselves because they have an approved certificate that is not time-expired but was obtained some time ago.

**New certification** refers to brand new courses leading to approved certification.

## AM I OK WITH WHAT I'VE GOT?

If users hold certification listed in the 'Grandfather' column or 'Current certification' column that was issued in the time periods indicated, they already have the correct certification that will allow purchase of professional use rodenticides after 1st June 2016. If users hold an approved but time-expired certification and already have Wildlife Aware with accreditation then they have the correct level of certification.

If you are coming back to this article having gained 'new certification' you are also able to buy professional use rodenticides after the 1st June 2016.

## WHAT IF MY COURSE / CERTIFICATION IS NOT ON THE LIST?

This one is simple, it means you don't have the correct certification and you do not have "Approved Certification" in order to purchase rodenticides post 1st June 2016.

If you don't have any approved certification, make sure you complete one of the courses listed under 'Current certification' from the table (or 'New certification' when it becomes available) and be quick about it! There are many options that are suitable for the various user groups: professional pest controllers, gamekeepers and farmers.

## WHAT IS THE SITUATION IN THE AGRICULTURE / FARMING SECTOR?

Interestingly, the NFU have published a press release on their website, here http://www.nfuonline.com/science-environment/animal-and-plant-health/demonstrating-competence-to-use-rodenticides/

The NFU have updated farmers with the options available to them.

The options are:

- Buy amateur products available in pack sizes up to 1.5kg,
- Undertake certification to continue to access professional pesticides in pack sized larger than 1.5kg or
- Procure the services of a professional pest controller.


**WHAT ABOUT CPD?**

The professional pest control and local authority sector has stated the intent to grow the membership of BASIS PROMPT from about 2,000 to 4,500 by 2016, as part of the Stewardship proposals put to HSE. Current BASIS PROMPT membership is at 3,043, which is excellent progress. However, membership of a CPD scheme is not an absolute requirement for users in terms of complying with the need for approved certification.

What HSE have requested regarding CPD is as follows: *'A coherent framework of continuous professional development (CPD) will be developed for all user groups. These CPD registers will be operated for each user group by relevant bodies and organisations'.*

CRRU discussions regarding the role of CPD are ongoing.

**I'VE HEARD THAT SOME RODENTICIDES ARE NOT GOING TO BE COVERED BY THE STEWARDSHIP LABEL REQUIREMENT FOR APPROVED CERTIFICATION TO PURCHASE AND USE SUCH PRODUCTS. IS THAT CORRECT?**

This is correct and indoor use only rodenticides and amateur use (the correct term is 'non-professional') rodenticides are not covered by the requirement for approved certification.

**WILL THERE BE ADDITIONAL TRAINING COURSES ADDED TO THE APPROVED LIST?**

This is certainly possible.

**WHAT IS THE KEY THING THAT I NEED TO TAKE AWAY FROM ALL THIS?**

Make sure you have approved certification.

CRRU Training and Certification Work Group approved certification, acceptable at the point-of-sale for purchase of professional use rodenticides under the terms of the SGAR Stewardship Regime

| 'Grandfather' certification | Current certification | New certification |
|---|---|---|
| RSPH/BPCA Level 2 Certificate in Pest Control (2004 – 2010) | RSPH/BPCA Level 2 Award in Pest Management (2010 onwards) | Rat Control for Gamekeepers (through BASIS) |
| RSPH Level 2 Certificate in Pest Control (2000 – 2004) | RSPH/BPCA Level 2 Certificate in Pest Management (2010 onwards) | RSPH Safe Use of Rodenticides |
| RSH Certificate in Pest Control (pre-2000) | RSPH Level 3 Diploma in Pest Management (2010 onwards) | Update certification |
| BPCA Diploma in Pest Control Part 1 (1998 – 2004) | City & Guilds NPTC Level 2 Award in the Safe Use of Pesticides for Vertebrate Pest Control for Rats and Mice (QCF) (PA-R&M) (2013 onwards) | CRRU Wildlife Aware (accredited by BASIS) N.B. Approved in conjunction with current Wildlife Aware accreditation, as a necessary update into approved status, for those holding approved but time-expired 'Grandfather' and current certification (i.e. issued before the dates shown in brackets) listed in the first two columns of this table. |
| NPTC Level 2 Certificate of Competence in Vertebrate Pest Control (2004 – 2014) | LANTRA: Responsible and Effective Control of Commensal Rodents (2009 onwards) | |
| | LANTRA: Rodent Control on Livestock Units (2013 onwards) | |
| | Killgerm Principles of Rodent Control (2004 onwards & through BASIS in future) | |

PestControl news SGARS SECOND GENERATION ANTICOAGULANT RODENTICIDES

## www.thinkwildlife.org

**Further information: Dr Alan Buckle, CRRU UK chairman, alan@alanbuckleconsulting.com, tel: +44 (0)1730 826715 or +44 (0)7881 656564.**

THINK WILDLIFE Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use

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PROFESSIONAL WOMEN IN PEST MANAGEMENT

# Ladykillers: Pest Detectives


*"Working in a man's world, they are a force to be reckoned with."*

**This four-part series from the BBC took a look at pest control from a female perspective. Angela, Janet, Deborah and Imogen tackled various jobs enlightening the viewer to the life as a pest controller as they tackled Britain's most common household pests.**

Throughout the series, the ladykillers compared their job to that of a detective. Imogen explained that, "In order to really understand the pest you have to think like the pest." This can only highlight the importance of understanding the biology of pests and also the importance of using the right equipment for the job.

To know the full scale of the infestations, cameras were used during the night to video the pest behaviour. The programme continually referred to the importance of public health, which can occasionally be forgotten by the public when dealing with a creature that 'makes their skin crawl.' Speaking to specialists during the series helped the ladykillers gain extra knowledge regarding some of the more difficult jobs, which provided the viewer with an insight into the problems that pest controllers face; such as resistance in rats and bedbugs (resistance being a major topic of discussion within the pest control industry for a while).

Janet explained how she started in the family business from the tender age of seven, when she was taken out on pest control jobs with her father and her small arms came in very handy reaching into small spaces, such as rabbit holes! but now she runs the company with her son, Tim. Her daughter has started doing some work with them but is at a crossroads in her life as to where she sees her career. Will she follow in her mum's footsteps!?

The series promoted the fact that women can do this job and more females are needed to join the industry. Typical 'female' personality traits came through showing empathy and sensitivity. Instead of making the traits seem like a hindrance to success, it showed that it might be what makes a female pest controller successful.

During the programme the ladies were described as, "Working in a man's world, they are a force to be reckoned with."

# CIEH National Pest Advisory Panel UPDATE

Chartered Institute of Environmental Health

### Tick Awareness

A meeting recently took place between NPAP and Public Health England (PHE) at CIEH Hatfields London to discuss the potential threat to public health posed by ticks.

Cases of Lyme disease vectored by the sheep/deer tick have steadily increased from 500 cases being reported in 2004 rising to 1040 in 2012. One species of particular interest is the brown dog tick. This species is non-native to the UK, but in recent years PHE have reported an increase in the number of these ticks being imported into the country on travelling and imported dogs and has often been found feeding on both dogs and humans.

Unlike native UK tick species, the brown dog tick can survive and live exclusively within human homes and dog kennels. The ability of this species to survive indoors means that humans or dogs living in infested homes (or kennels) could be bitten, and in order to reduce tick bite risk and eliminate tick infestations, pest control measures need to be implemented.

To raise awareness regarding the increase risk to public health NPAP and PHE are to develop a tick fact sheet and produce a tick management advisory document aimed at environmental health practitioners and other public health professionals. The documents are to be launched at the CIEH Conference at East Midlands Conference Nottingham in October.

### CIEH CEO Graham Jukes to Step Down

Graham Jukes OBE CFCIEH, Chief Executive of the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH), has announced that he will step down from his post at the end of 2015 after 15 years of leading the organisation.

Mr Jukes will take up a new role as Vice President of the CIEH at the beginning of 2016 and in the following months he will concentrate on maintaining the momentum of the Chartered Institute while the process of recruiting a successor takes place.

He announced his decision now to allow a smooth transfer of management responsibilities in order to effectively plan and deliver the CIEH's agenda over his remaining months in office. Mr Jukes was elected a fellow of the CIEH in 1990, a fellow of the Faculty of Public Health in 2004 and was awarded an OBE in 2014 for his services to environmental health in the UK and abroad.

The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH) set-up the National Pest Advisory Panel (NPAP) as a CIEH special interest group to take the lead in setting a consistent approach, as well as developing and sharing good practice, for pest control practitioners and services.

NPAP provides expert advice and guidance to those in charge of local authority pest control services and to the wider private sector on appropriate management and approaches. The panel involves pest management professionals from across the environmental health and wider community and delivers on an annual programme of projects in support of its objectives.

Chief Executive of the CIEH, Graham Jukes OBE, said:

*"Pests can endanger health, contaminate food and the environment, as well as damage property"*

NPAP was set-up to tackle these very serious problems across the United Kingdom and will remain a vital part of the CIEH well into the future, as well as continuing to be integral to the work of the National Environmental Health Board.

"Although I am stepping down as Chief Executive of the CIEH, I will continue to promote NPAP and their outstanding work over the coming months and years in other roles that I will be taking on and my personal and professional support for the panel will endure for as long as I am working and involved in the field of environmental health."

# FLY INFESTATIONS HIT PIG AND POULTRY PRODUCTION

**FLY INFESTATIONS IN PIG AND POULTRY BUILDINGS COULD BE COSTING LIVESTOCK FARMERS 10% IN LOST GROWTH RATES AND EGG PRODUCTION. THAT COULD EQUATE TO OVER €10 (£8.50) PER PIG IN EXTRA FEED REQUIREMENT.**

Speaking at the recent PestEx 2015 event in London, Syngenta Technical Manager, Dr Kai Sievert, reported research studies have shown pig growth rates in untreated buildings with moderate house fly infestations, of six to 21 flies trapped per day on monitoring glue traps, were 121 days through the finishing unit, compared to just 109 days in adjacent buildings where the flies were controlled. Feed cost savings in the treated houses amounted to €15,000 a year per pig house with a capacity of 1500 head.

Other livestock can also be seriously affected by nuisance flies, he added. In poultry units, for example, cestodosis (internal worm parasites) transmitted by house flies reduced egg production by 10%. Whilst beef units had seen weight gain reduced by up to 20% where infestations of *Stomoxys calcitrans* biting flies exceeded 100 insects per calf.

"Unless controlled by professional pest controllers or farmers, flies can carry over 100 different germs in the form of viruses, bacteria, fungi, and even worm eggs," warned Dr Sievert, "more than 65 of which can affect humans or animals. The movement of diseases, via mechanical transfer, by fly feces, fly saliva, or feeding, includes also the spread of the two most widely publicised risks to human health status: *E. coli* and *Salmonella*."

He highlighted the presence of flies also created a bridge for disease, including between stock on different farms or buildings and from one batch of livestock to another passing through a building – no matter how thorough the physical cleaning or biosecurity measures. In these situations, the targeted use of Demand CS® or Icon® residual sprays and Zyrox® baits can be effective in minimising problem disease transmission. (Please note that Icon® and Zyrox® are not approved in the UK).

Dr Sievert pointed out that, with the current pressure on farmers to reduce the use of antibiotics in livestock production, there will almost inevitably be a higher background level of disease that will increase the potential risk of further spread by flies in the future. Thus the general hygiene situation has to be improved and fly control is a crucially important part of this.

The threat to intensive livestock is increased since flies can breed almost all year round in the controlled warm environment. As the temperature rises, so the life-cycle gets shorter. At 16˚C the life cycle may take up to 50 days from egg laying to adult fly, but at 25˚C it is typically down to 16 days and, at 35˚C, can be as short as seven days. Dr Sievert advocated farmers and pest controllers should now adopt an integrated approach to fly control, combining best practice to minimise fly populations with effective insecticide treatment of livestock buildings.

He highlighted the value of physical barriers to prevent fly incursion into buildings. Experience of studies on over 100 poultry farms had shown examples where cases of Campylobacter had been low over winter, but increased dramatically during the summer, he cited. Putting fly gauze on windows of the buildings had reduced the incidence of peak infection from about 55% down to 15%.

In addition to physical barriers, he urged the need for better long-term control by removing the breeding grounds for flies. "Clearing dung and moving it away from buildings deprives flies of the organic matter necessary for breeding," advised Dr Sievert.

"Furthermore, flies will not breed in dry areas, so simple measures such as avoiding leaking water troughs especially in poultry houses can significantly help." Dead animals are the ideal medium for flies too, especially blowflies, and should always be cleared away, he added.

But whilst mechanical methods could reduce fly numbers, for most farms chemical control was the primary route to effectively keep infestations below nuisance thresholds. Typically that would include the use of adulticides to quickly knockdown problem fly numbers, in combination with larvicides to break the cycle of population build-up.

Dr Sievert advocated that when pest controllers were treating walls they should spray just a third of the wall area with insecticide, such as Icon or Demand CS. "In practice that will achieve 98 to 99% control of flies, but will be at a lower cost and is also a good anti-resistance strategy," he advised.

"In areas where flies are particularly severe or difficult to spray, it can be a good tip to physically paint the spray mix onto walls and posts, for example, which can apply sufficient active to give high levels of residual control."

Where bait product insecticides, such as Zyrox, are being used he advocated careful placement in areas targeted where flies can be seen to be congregating, typically on window sills and tops of walls, for example. If access is difficult it can be possible to target flies by moistening card and sprinkling on the bait granules; when the card is dry the bait cards can be hung in areas where flies are active.

Understanding the physical attraction of different flies is also important, pointed out Dr Sievert. The blood sucking stable fly, *Stomoxys calcitrans*, for example, is not attracted to bait insecticides, so will need to be controlled by spraying walls with a contact insecticide such as Icon or Demand.

Larvicides applied to the surface of dung within livestock buildings can play an important role in the overall strategy to reduce fly populations. However, controllers must be vigilant since the efficacy is reduced as fresh dung builds up. Larvae prefer to stay in the upper regions of the manure, so control is reduced as soon as 10cm of new dung has accumulated, he pointed out.

When it comes to insecticide selection, Dr Sievert recommended the use of at least two different classes of active to minimise the risk of resistance developing. Furthermore, when adulticides and larvicides are used in combination, there is a benefit from rotating the actives used. "It is important to look at the active and the way that it works, not simply using two different product names that could be from the same class of active," he advised. "Effective control strategies utilising the best available proven technologies and techniques are essential to avoid the direct economic loses and serious animal welfare concerns of nuisance flies," he added.

# The Introduction of the CEN Standard

## A new industry standard that will create a unique benchmark for pest controllers throughout Europe has been officially launched at a conference in Brussels.

**More than 80 key stakeholders from the pest management industry attended the event, which was organised by the Confederation of European Pest Management Associations (CEPA) - the umbrella trade body for urban pest control.**

The introduction of CEN standard EN16636 and CEPA Certified® status creates a template that can be adopted in every European country to demonstrate professionalism.

And CEPA President, Bertrand Montmoreau, believes the initiative will have far-reaching benefits.

He said, "This will ensure pest controllers can benchmark themselves against the best in Europe and it's something that will have strong benefits for their customers too.

"We know that in many European markets, there are some pest controllers who are untrained and do not stay up-to-date with the latest products and legislation.

"But with the new standard and certification scheme, clients can be confident of a quality service."

> "It sends out a strong message that when people use companies carrying the CEPA Certified® logo they can have peace of mind that the job will be done properly."

The conference featured a series of presentations and lively debate from a panel of industry insiders. It included policy makers at the European Commission and the European standards organisation along with trade associations, pest control servicing companies and suppliers.

Martin Harvey, president of the British Pest Control Association, said, "This is an initiative that takes a major step forward in defining what a professional pest manager should be throughout Europe.

"It sends out a strong message that when people use companies carrying the CEPA Certified® logo, they can have peace of mind that the job will be done properly.

"We want this to become the mark of a true professional and for clients to know to look for this logo every time they select a pest control company."

Companies wishing to meet the standard must be assessed on joining the scheme and at 18-month intervals thereafter.

The certification scheme acts as an assurance to clients and domestic customers that companies are fully qualified to deal with all species of both rodents and insects and are well versed in integrated pest management, the use of chemicals, and health and safety issues.

The scheme requires that staff take part in continuing professional development and so ensures they will always be up to date with the latest techniques and developments in a fast-changing sector.

### About CEPA

CEPA, the Confederation of European Pest Management Associations, is based in Brussels and unites 25 National and Regional Pest Management Associations from across Europe.

In addition to associations, CEPA members also include manufacturers, distributors, service companies and various other supporting partners from Europe and beyond. The Confederation represents an industry with a turnover of more than 3 billion euros, generated by 10,000+ companies, employing in excess of 40,000 people. CEPA is the originator and driver of the CEPA Certified® programme and also the underpinning European Standard that supports it (EN16636).

CEPA's aim is to ensure that the Pest Management industry is recognised for responsibly protecting European citizens and the environment in which they live against public health risks.

# RODENTICIDE LABELS MADE EASY


Following the release of the NEW CRRU UK Code of Best Practice, I'm sure many of you are scratching your heads and wondering, "What does this mean in relation to the products I am using?"

## SECOND GENERATION ANTICOAGULANTS (SGARS)

If after going through the risk hierarchy you reach the conclusion that SGARs are the most appropriate method of control then below is a quick and easy guide to changes that have been introduced regarding areas of use that will feature on labels.

### SGARs include:

**Brodifacoum, Bromadialone, Difethialone, Difenacoum and Flocoumafen**

**Firstly… READ THE LABEL! This will tell you how the product can be used.**

Originally, brodifacoum, difethialone and flocoumafen were approved for 'indoor use' only. Some registrations for products based on these active ingredients for use 'in and around' buildings have already been issued without stewardship conditions; but not for open areas or waste dumps. As it is now after the 1st June 2015, manufacturers should have applied for all existing 'outdoor' products under stewardship conditions. This includes 'in and around buildings' use of Brodifacoum, difethialone and flocoumafen products.

Originally, Bromadialone and difenacoum products were permitted for use 'in and around buildings' (some bromadiolone products still carry the 'indoors and outdoors' label phrase although this will cease to be the case, so make sure you check the label) however, under stewardship conditions manufacturers are able to apply for registrations for products based on these active ingredients for use in 'open areas' as well as 'in and around' buildings.

If the product is not authorised under Stewardship conditions then you must cease using it after the 1st June 2016. Again … check the label!

## AREAS OF USE AND WHAT DO THEY MEAN

It is essential that rodenticides are applied only in those areas where their use is permitted by the product authorisation and is therefore as shown on the product label.

### 'INDOORS' IS DEFINED AS:

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 restricted to use indoors 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'.

Products subject to indoor use only are not subject to the Stewardship Scheme.

**'IN AND AROUND BUILDINGS'** is a new term on UK rodenticide labels and defined as:

'In and around buildings' shall be understood as the building itself, and the area around the building that needs to be treated in order to deal with the infestation of the building. This would cover uses in sewer system or ships but not in waste dumps or open areas such as farmlands, parks or golf courses.

**'OPEN AREAS'** is a new term without a concise definition.

As above, European Commission documents describe uses "*around farmland, parks and golf courses*" as typical of open area applications. The term is also used when "*rodenticides are used to reduce impacts on game rearing or outside (i.e. in field) food stores (potato/sugar beet clamps)*". An open area is therefore one that fits neither of the two preceding definitions and is an urban, suburban or rural space that is not directly associated with a building.

**'OUTDOORS'** was used in the UK as a regulatory term for places where baits could be applied that were not restricted to "indoors" (see above definition) but will no longer be used on rodenticide labels. Continued use may cause confusion, especially if it is employed in association with the term 'in and around buildings', from which it differs significantly.

## CHANGES IN PRODUCTS

It is likely in future you will see new (and old) rodenticide products coming in to the market with uses as defined by the new Code of Best Practice and set out above. Here are a few that we have spotted:

## NEW PRODUCT USES


**PRODUCT: BASF STORM :**

Active Substance: flocoumafen

Use: In and around buildings


**PRODUCT: UNICHEM RATIMOR :**

Active Substance: Brodifacoum

Use: In and around buildings

**PRODUCT: LODI SAPPHIRE GRAIN :**

Active Substance: Brodifacoum

Use: In and around buildings

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**www.pestcontrolnews.com/downloads-resources/**

# PCN CROSSWORD


COMPETITION DEADLINE DATE 1st July 2015

## Be in with a chance of winning LED P4 Lensor Torch

This lightweight torch has a brilliant, super-bright light, which you can focus by moving the lamp head and can be attached to your shirt or work wear and weighs so little that you'll hardly notice it; ideal for inspections.

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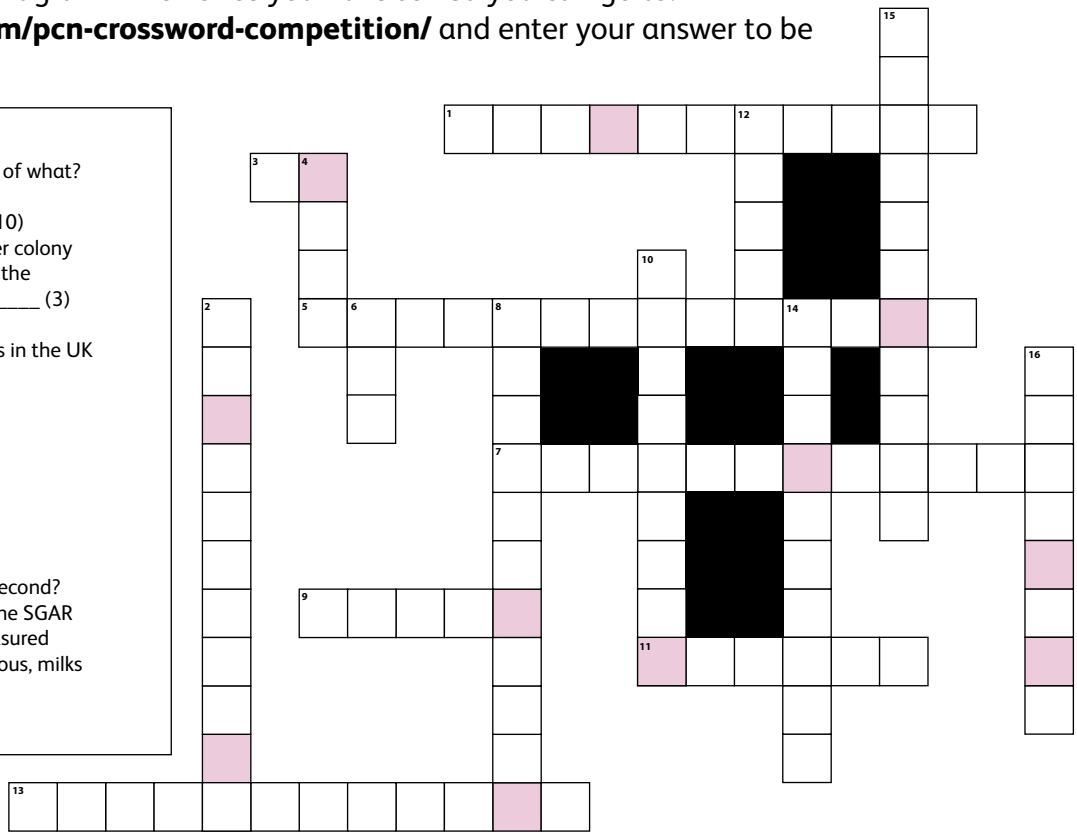
All you have to do is solve the crossword and write down the letters from the pink squares. These letters will form an anagram which once you have solved you can go to: **www.pestcontrolnews.com/pcn-crossword-competition/** and enter your answer to be in with a chance to **WIN!**

### Across

1. Erythema Migrans is a symptom of what?
3. Identification
5. HSE 5 steps to _____(4) _____ (10)
7. In Europe this species has a super colony that stretches 3,700 miles along the Mediterranean coast _____(9) _____ (3)
9. Bird Excrement
11. AKA Eblv, found in 11 bat species in the UK
13. Opposite of Endoparasite

### Down

2. SGAR ____ Scheme
4. Think Sound of Music "Doe"
6. Intergrated Pest Management
8. *Vespa velutina nigrithorax*
10. Apiculturist
12. If FGARS were first, what came second?
14. One of the ways the success of the SGAR Stewardship Scheme will be measured
15. A common formicine - monogynous, milks honeydew from aphids
16. Alternative name for Acaricide



Anagram: Answer: _____

Terms and Conditions apply. **Closing date is 01/07/2015.**
The answers to the crosswords and the winners of the LED P4 Lensor Torches will be announced in the next issue of **PCN (#104).**

# Pesticide Plan Positive News for Farming Industry


David Cross

FARMERS are set to benefit from a move to tighten up the supply of specialist pesticides.

A new qualification has been introduced for people who sell deadly metallic phosphide poison, used to control rabbits, rats and moles in their burrows.

And organisers say it will help those in the farming industry ensure pest control methods are both legal and effective.

The BASIS Certificate in Crop Protection (Aluminium Phosphide for Vertebrate Control) leads to credentials that will soon become a legal requirement for suppliers.

Its introduction is the latest part of an industry drive for better stewardship of the products being overseen by the Register of Accredited Metallic Phosphide Standards (RAMPS UK).

David Cross, chairman of RAMPS UK, says it will be end-users, such as farmers, who will gain most in the long term.

He said, "New legislation means anyone using metallic phosphides must soon have a recognised certificate of competence in place.

"But sellers and suppliers will also be obliged to hold certain qualifications and manufacturers will refuse to distribute the products to those who don't.

"So this new course is part of our 'top-down' approach that will tighten up the whole supply chain.

"Many farmers rely on their suppliers to provide the right products and the most up-to-date information. This qualification will enable those suppliers to demonstrate their expertise."

Suppliers keen to meet the November 26 deadline have so far been obliged to gain the full BASIS Certificate in Crop Protection - a broader qualification covering all types of pesticide.

Now they can opt to take a stand-alone module specifically covering the use of phosphides for vertebrate control.

The courses, accredited by Harper Adams University, are being run by BASIS-approved trainers and contact details can be found at **www.basis-reg.co.uk**.

They cover issues which include the application and safe use of the products, the activity and persistence of phosphides and the protection of non-target species.

The qualification also requires knowledge of the RAMPS UK initiative and the ways to ensure the sustainable use of phosphide products in all market sectors.

Mr Cross added, "The new course is very specific and is only intended for those who'll sell or give advice on the use of metallic phosphides for the control of vertebrate pests.

"It means those people don't have to take the wider-ranging course which covers all sorts of pesticides.

**RAMPSUK**

The Register of Accredited Metallic Phosphide Standards in the United Kingdom

"But those who sell or advise on products used in growing crops must still obtain the BASIS Certificate in Crop Protection (Agriculture, Commercial, Horticulture or Vegetables)."

Phosphine is a vitally important fumigant used to control a wide range of vertebrates which can infest stored food.

It's the most toxic substance used for controlling pests and RAMPS UK is leading an industry initiative to establish standards of good practice.

Mr Cross said, "The purpose of RAMPS UK is to ensure all buyers, users and suppliers of these substances are aware of the implications of the new legislation.

"We want to ensure people take the necessary steps to enable them to continue to use or sell the substances lawfully after the deadline."

Training can organised via **www.RAMPS-UK.org**

# KNOW YOUR ENEMY

## OLD BIRD NESTS

In previous instalments of 'know your enemy', we have focused on particular species. In this issue we take a broader look at a well-known source of insect activity, the humble bird nest. Many in the industry are aware that bird nests can be a common source of insects such as biscuit beetles, bird fleas and clothes moth but we take a closer look at what can be found and the results are perhaps a little surprising.

The following is based on a 1953 scientific paper by Woodroffe of the now defunct pest infestation laboratory, Slough. It might be an old paper but the information is still extremely relevant today. Look through the list of species associated with bird nests and it may well help you when dealing with persistent insect activity; the old bird nest in the attic is your enemy: remove it!

### Ectoparasites of birds

OK, so you would expect ectoparasites of birds to be found in their nests and this is rather obvious; bird blood is theirs for the taking. One ectoparasite of particular interest that was recorded in this study was the martin bug *Oeciacus hirundinis* and it can easily be mistaken for a bedbug as there is a close resemblance. Oh, and it will bite you! The two are actually in the same family, which gives you an idea of how close that resemblance is. In fact, the common bedbug *Cimex lectularius* can also be found in association with bird nests as it is capable of taking a blood meal from birds.

Here is an image of the martin bug. If you are trying to figure out how this differs from the bedbug, the martin bug has a less concave front margin of the pronotum and its body features long hairs. Otherwise, seek out advice from an entomologist. The presence of martin bugs could be an explanation for 'failed' bedbug treatments with occupants continuing to be bitten following control efforts.

*Martin Bug*

Still thinking about bird ectoparasites, keep an eye out for the rather fearsome looking 'louse flies' or 'keds', from the family Hippoboscidae. These have been recorded in sparrow nests in the eaves of buildings, water tanks and farm stables.

Here is one…harmless to you and I but it can still cause consternation.


*Sturgis McKeever, Georgia Southern University, Bugwood.org - See more at: http://www.insectimages.org/browse/detail.cfm?imgnum=1472047#sthash.gTooURsE.dpuf*

A pigeon nest in a derelict theatre in Surrey yielded a nymph of the mysteriously named 'masked hunter' bug, going by the scientific name of *Reduvius personatus*.

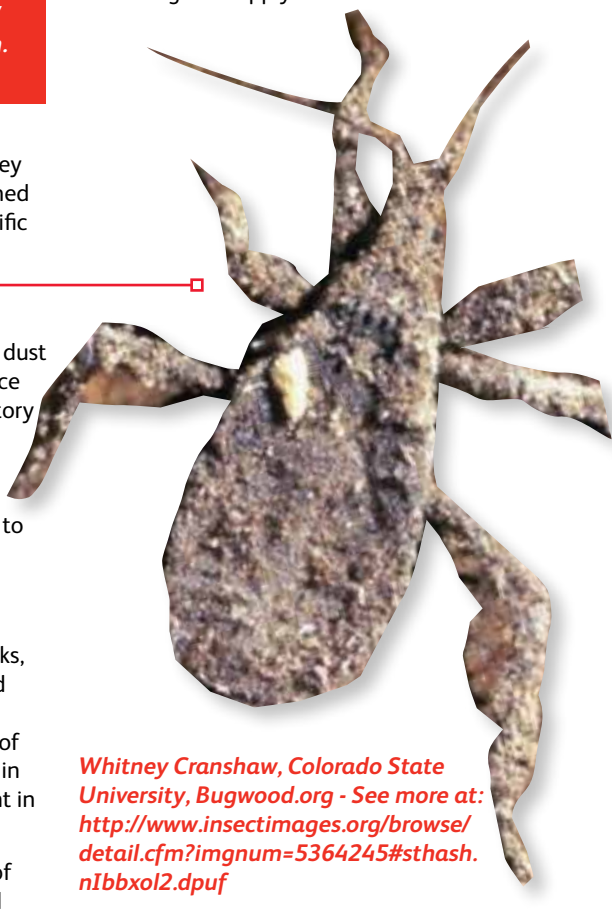
The 'masked hunter' earns its name by producing a sticky secretion that attracts dust and debris, giving it a powdery appearance that aids its camouflage. They are predatory and feed on a wide range of insects including bedbugs, by sucking their body fluids; an option for biological control of bedbugs? Perhaps not as they are known to bite sleeping humans.

Along with bird fleas, the bird mite / red poultry mite was probably the most commonly received sample in recent weeks, most likely due to bird nests being started and / or abandoned in premises. The bird mite *Dermanyssus gallinae* was also one of the most frequently encountered species in the Woodroffe study, where it was present in most nests, often in very large numbers.

When it comes to domestic infestations of *D. gallinae*, most are associated with wild birds' nests such as those of sparrows, starlings and pigeons. When nestlings leave the nest or when a nest is abandoned, the mites will migrate away in an attempt to find a host for a blood meal. When the normal hosts are not available, the mites will attack us. Yes, their bites can be painful and irritating! Thankfully they are unable to breed in association with humans alone.

How do you get rid of them? Well, as with all the pests referred to in this article, the bird nest is your enemy – remove it! Just remember that all birds, their nests and eggs are protected by law so become familiar with the relevant advice such as that listed here: *http://www.rspb.org.uk/forprofessionals/policy/wildbirdslaw/birdsandlaw/wca/*

With so many other insect and other arthropod species associated with bird nests we may revisit this in a future issue…textile pests will be a good place to start, with a veritable feast of keratinous material to be found in great supply.



*Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org - See more at: http://www.insectimages.org/browse/detail.cfm?imgnum=5364245#sthash.nIbbxol2.dpuf*

# KNOW YOUR FRIEND

## THE WOOD MOUSE

**In a new series of articles, intended to complement 'Know Your Enemy', Pest Control News examines the non-target species that need to be considered in pest control, with the aim of raising awareness and minimising the risk to such species from the application of pesticides and other products.**

With the Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticide (SGARs) Stewardship Regime gathering momentum, it is essential for professional pest controllers to be aware of non-target species and understand how to minimise the risks of contamination of wildlife.

Of particular importance in terms of the contamination of birds of prey with SGARs is the wood mouse, *Apodemus sylvaticus*. For clarification, the wood mouse, field mouse and the long-tailed field mouse are one and the same thing – *Apodemus sylvaticus*. This is why we try and use scientific names rather than common names, to avoid confusion.

Barn owls are the species due to be monitored as part of the SGAR stewardship regime. In barn owls there needs to be a consistent downward trend in the concentration of all SGARs (i.e. sum of residues) over the first four years, with the aim of reducing the overall concentration by 30 % within four years, for the scheme to be judged as being successful. Another aspect of this monitoring procedure is to be an examination of the breeding success of barn owls, the results of which will tie in with the work on residues. This is where wood mice come in, as they are a significant part of the barn owl diet and are quite probably the main route of their contamination with SGARs. So, it is absolutely crucial that all users of rodenticides are able to recognise wood mouse activity and act accordingly if SGAR residues in barn owls are to be reduced.

If we think about barn owls specifically, their small mammal prey consists of field voles, bank voles, wood mice, common shrew, pygmy shrew, harvest mice, and extremely rarely house mice and Norway rats. In fact, some figures show that Norway rats make up less than 1 % of the barn owl diet. So how are rodenticide residues ending up in barn owls? Consumption of anticoagulant treated Norway rats is not the route of contamination. Nor is the consumption of house mice as they form a minor part of the barn owl diet and their name gives away their behaviour – they spend their time predominantly indoors and are therefore rarely available as prey to barn owls.

Shrews, field voles and harvest mice are not consuming rodenticides laid in external bait points around the perimeters of buildings and other areas, which leaves wood mice and bank voles as the likely culprits. Indeed, wood mice and bank voles are known to feed on rodenticide and they make up 18 % and 5 % of the barn owl diet respectively. So, it becomes clear that external long-term perimeter baiting, especially when rats are not present, puts barn owls and other birds of prey at risk of becoming contaminated with SGARs, via consumption of non-target rodents such as wood mice and bank voles.

It is this prolonged / 'permanent' external baiting for rat control which presents the risk that wood mice will consume bait and then be taken by barn owls, resulting in contamination of these birds of prey with low-level residues of anticoagulant.

Clearly, this is where an environmental risk assessment comes into play as well as operating in line with rodenticide labels and the CRRU UK code of best practice

**(download here http://pestcontrolnews.com/downloads-resources/)**

It is not just barn owls that take wood mice as prey. Wood mice are also taken by stoats, weasels and kestrels and are thought to be contributing to anticoagulant residues in these species.

In terms of recognising the wood mouse, it is a handsome creature, as can be seen below.

Wood mice could be mistaken for house mice and they may cause similar damage by gnawing. However, wood mice are rather distinctive and should be recognised easily by their brown fur, light coloured underside (with yellowish chest spot), large ears, large eyes and their tail which is longer than their head and body length combined. Wood mouse droppings are similar to house mouse droppings and it isn't always easy to tell them apart, so other field signs are more reliable. For example, wood mice cache bait and cover over bait.

As far as control measures go, trapping is the preferred technique due to the risk of secondary contamination of birds of prey that consume wood mice treated with rodenticides.

Of course, wood mice are only really a threat to public health when found indoors and it is difficult to ever see how wood mouse control externally would be justified. It should also be noted that some rodenticide labels state 'for the control of mice (*Mus musculus/domesticus*)' which rules out use against wood mice because they are not covered by the label i.e. the target species is stated specifically rather than having a general reference to mice.

Wood mice are common in hedgerows but often come into properties and farms. Pest Control News has received reports of wood mice being the most common mouse found indoors in some parts of the country. In fact, over 80 % of mouse problems indoors can be attributed to wood mice in some areas!

As a closing point, possible health risks from wood mice include leptospirosis (Weil's disease) through contact with urine and Lyme disease through infected tick bites. Therefore, there is a reason for control of wood mice but this must be undertaken while protecting birds of prey and other wildlife by continuing to adhere to best practice regarding rodenticide use.

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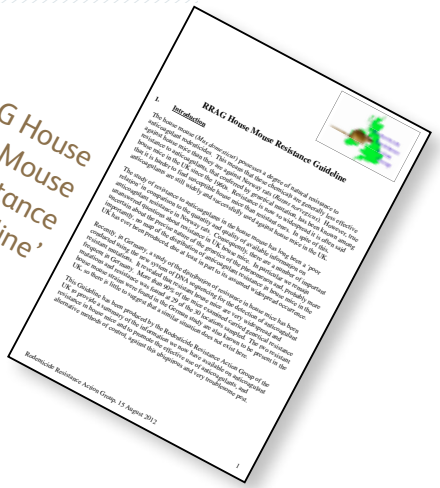
# RODENTICIDE RESISTANCE IN MICE




## FOCUS ON THE LABEL

As part of PCN's 'focus on rodenticide labels' in this issue, we look at the challenges posed by anticoagulant resistance in terms of rodent control. Rodenticides with a BPR approval carry a specific label statement regarding anticoagulant resistance. So the old adage of 'read the label' is still as relevant now as it ever was.

When we **read the label** this is what we find regarding resistance…

> *"The resistance status of the target population should be taken into account when considering the choice of rodenticide to be used. In those areas where evidence of resistance to specific active substances is suspected, avoid their use. To control the spread of resistance, it is advisable to alternate baits containing different anticoagulant active substances."*

This naturally sends us to advice provided by the Rodenticide Resistance Action Group (RRAG).

RRAG have published their 'RRAG House Mouse Resistance Guideline' (go to: **www.pestcontrolnews.com/downloads-resources/** to obtain your copy) and the advice within it changes house mouse control as many currently understand it. The guidance provides one of the biggest shift-changes in recent memory, regarding the way we look at house mouse control and it is suspected that this has gone largely unnoticed by many users.

Do you still use bromadiolone or difenacoum based products for house mouse control? Have you ever wondered why you may not be getting the results you would normally expect? If the answer is 'yes' to both of these questions then you really must read on…

The RRAG guideline states the following, regarding results observed in trials: *"The frequent inability of difenacoum and bromadiolone to provide complete control, both in the case of resistant family groups in pen tests and of wild infestations in the field. Indeed, mice survived in five of the 12 field trials conducted. These survivors were removed to the laboratory and later offered either 0.005% bromadiolone or difenacoum for 21 days. Respectively 43% and 18% of the mice survived in these bromadiolone and difenacoum tests. These results appeared to show that some mice, substantially resistant to bromadiolone and difenacoum, were present in field infestations even before these two compounds came into widespread use in the UK."*

While this certainly does not sound the death knell for difenacoum and bromadiolone in terms of house mouse control, it does get one thinking, you may have had great success controlling house mice with these active ingredients and could easily continue to do so but what about those troublesome jobs?

It is reasonably well-known in the industry that achieving successful house mouse control with bromadiolone can be more problematic than with difenacoum. In fact, as the RRAG guide says, *"there are many anecdotal reports of the failure of bromadiolone to control house mice."* Following on from this, an important shift-change in the way we think about selecting anticoagulant active ingredients for mouse control is referred to within the guide: *"While it is likely that some infestations may be controlled, at least in part, by applications of bromadiolone, the use of this active substance against house mice in UK is **not recommended** as it may not result in an adequate level of control and will exacerbate resistance problems."* Specifically, the problem is with house mice carrying the Y139C mutation that show a significant degree of resistance to bromadiolone.

So what about difenacoum? We know that this active ingredient is used throughout the UK in a great number of successful house mouse treatments. Well, the Y139C mutation referred to above confers a degree of resistance to difenacoum, so things are not always straightforward. It is RRAG advice that *"It would therefore be prudent, in areas where resistance in house mice is suspected, **not to use** products that contain difenacoum."*

So we are in an interesting position as far as the use of bromadiolone and difenacoum for mouse control is concerned – current recommendation is that these actives should **not be used** in certain circumstances. So, what are the preferred alternatives for control?

The RRAG guideline comes to our aid with a reference to relevant studies: *"There is also good evidence from early field studies that brodifacoum and flocoumafen are effective against anticoagulant-resistant house mice. Furthermore, laboratory studies conducted on mice carrying the Y139C mutation at the University of Reading have confirmed that brodifacoum baits are effective against this type of resistant house mouse."* The RRAG guide goes further than this, with the following game-changing / shift-change piece of advice: *"products containing brodifacoum and flocoumafen should be the **rodenticides of choice** when carrying out control treatments against house mice in the UK. This is because they offer the promise of the highest levels of control and are the least likely to result in anticoagulant-resistant mice surviving treatments."*

So, it can be justifiable to use flocoumafen and brodifacoum for control of house mice indoors as a first-choice option (after following the CRRU code of best practice of course **www.pestcontrolnews.com/downloads-resources/**

Two important questions remain, having digested this advice. Are you using the most suitable active ingredient for house mouse control? Are you complying with label directions regarding anticoagulant resistance?

# INSECT CONTROL IN SENSITIVE ENVIRONMENTS

## THE MOST COMMON FLYING INSECTS FOUND IN HOSPITALS

**Dr Matthew Davies shares with Pest Control News a snippet of the results of his research regarding the flying insects most commonly found in hospitals, as part of a focus on insect control in sensitive environments.**

The housefly is probably the first name to reel off when asked which fly species is the most common indoors. However, recent research shows that a number of other fly species can be found in far greater numbers than houseflies in sensitive areas such as hospital kitchens and wards, with most of these being 'small flies' like drain flies and midges.

It is the typical perception of those outside of the pest control industry that 'small flies' are insignificant, especially in terms infection control, because "small is insignificant, right?" However, we now know that various species of drain flies and non-biting midges can carry a variety of pathogens and can in some cases be numerous in hospitals. Although this article will keep referring to hospitals, as this is where the research was undertaken, it is important to note that there is read-across from this study that is relevant in many other areas of public health pest control.

For example, how different are hospital kitchens, hospital cafes, hospital restaurants and hospital food storage areas to similar zones in the food industry? Not much different really!

It is perhaps quite surprising to see that bluebottles were the most common 'pest' (we'll say that rather than synanthropic or 'ecologically associated with humans') fly in UK hospitals, whereas the textbooks would have us believe that this should be the common housefly. The presence of bluebottles would of course tell us something about the level of rodent and bird carcasses in the vicinity. It doesn't take many carcasses to create a fly problem either. Very large numbers of flies may emerge from relatively small quantities of decaying matter, for instance, a dead rat will provide enough nutrients to rear 4,000 flies. In rural areas populations of the bluebottle *(Calliphora vicina)* of up to 2,500 per hectare have been estimated in peak periods.

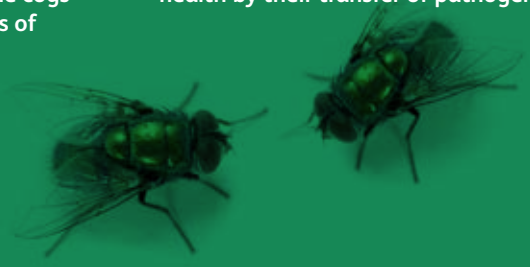
Most surprising of all is the fact that non-biting midges (family Chironomidae) were the most common fly in UK hospitals – they amounted to over half of flies sampled. Readers with the cogs turning will deduce something about the proofing levels of properties with many non-biting midges indoors. Yes, that's right, they have to get in somehow, as they typically develop outdoors, in association with stagnant pools of water.

Females lay their eggs in a mucilaginous mass in water where the larvae are to be found. The larvae, frequently known as bloodworms, are mainly aquatic and often found in areas of low oxygen such as stagnant pools. The name bloodworm refers to the fact that they are frequently red in colour, signifying the presence, in their haemolymph (blood) of haemoglobin. They are one of the few invertebrates to have this respiratory pigment. Sewage works can also be a source of these flies.

Flies of the genus *Psychoda* were numerous in hospitals and they were the most common of the 'drain flies' found. They are better known as 'owl midges' or 'moth flies' or 'bathroom flies' and we are familiar with the fact that they are associated with broken and blocked drains.

They weren't the only 'drain flies' found though. Other 'drain flies' (species with a propensity to breed in decaying organic matter that is often associated with drains) collected from hospitals included scuttle flies of the family Phoridae, lesser dung flies of the family Sphaeroceridae, fungus gnats of the Family Sciaridae, fruit flies of the family Drosophilidae, black scavenger flies of the family Sepsidae and dung midges of the family Scatopsidae.

These families of 'drain flies' made up nearly a quarter of all two winged flies (Diptera) sampled from hospitals. They might be small but they certainly are not insignificant and whoever you are and whatever area of the industry you work in, from domestic properties to food premises, you should take note of the presence of the 'small flies' like drain flies and midges. They might be the most common flies there, that may otherwise have gone 'under the radar' and not been considered in terms of what they indicate about proofing or hygiene and the threat they pose to public health by their transfer of pathogens.



# FLIES OF IMPORTANCE IN UK HOSPITALS

**The following images give a snapshot of the findings of the recent research.**

## THE HOUSEFLY *Musca domestica*, LIFE CYCLE. MODEL LABORATORY ORGANISM.

Right: Adults. Top Centre: Eggs.

Bottom: Larvae. Top left: Pupae.

Clemson University - USDA Cooperative Extension Slide Series, Bugwood.org

## *Calliphora vicina*, BLOWFLY, FAMILY Calliphoridae.

The most common synanthropic fly in UK hospitals.

Gary Alpert, Harvard University, Bugwood.org

## NON-BITING MIDGE, FAMILY Chironomidae.

The most common fly in UK hospitals.

Joseph Berger, Bugwood.org

## *Psychoda* sp, FAMILY Psychodidae.

The most common 'drain fly' in UK hospitals.

Whitney Cranshaw, Bugwood.org

# WITHDRAWAL OF ALPHACYPERMETHRIN AND PYRIPROXYFEN PRODUCTS

With all the **SGAR** Stewardship talk keeping us occupied, it's time for a change of topic to insecticides, although it isn't all good news. Many products containing alphacypermethrin are to be withdrawn from the market and pyriproxyfen is also being affected.

## Article 95

The withdrawals are all due to the impact of 'article 95', which is affecting all sectors of the biocide market. In the words of HSE, "By 1 September 2015, all companies making biocidal products available on the UK market must be able to demonstrate that their active substance supplier is included in the Article 95 list." So what happens if this deadline is not met or if this information is not sent to HSE? Well, "If **HSE does not** receive this information on your product(s) by **1 September 2015**, the approval consents relating to the advertisement, sale and supply of your product(s) will expire/ be revoked." The 1st of September is approaching fast but we have become used to phase-out periods, yet this is not the case.

HSE have confirmed that, "**No** phase-out period for the advertisement, sale and supply of your product(s) on the UK market can be granted." However, there is a 'stay of execution' in terms of using up affected products because, "the approval consents relating to the storage, use and disposal of your product(s) will continue subject to the provisions of Article 89(2), 3(b) and 4(b) of EU BPR."

## PelGar make announcement regarding the impact of article 95 on their range of alphacypermethrin insecticides

PelGar have been first to make announcements regarding the effect of article 95 on their products. PelGar products such as Cimetrol and Stingray are just some of the well-known insecticides that will be affected. This will no doubt impact on bedbug control, as one example. PelGar have said that they expect to have replacements for some of their alphacypermethrin products available in the medium term but this is not expected to be before February 2016.

The sale and manufacture of these products will cease by the 1st of September 2015, end users of these products will have a period of 180 days from the 1st of September to use them, then a further 180 days for storage or disposal.

To summarise the relevant dates for the following listed products:

- Final sale and manufacture date into any section of the market is August 31st 2015
- Final date for use is 28th February 2016
- Final date for disposal and storage is the 26th August 2016

| | |
|---|---|
| HSE 8225 | ALPHABAN 10 SC |
| HSE 7689 | ALPHABAN SUPER 5 ME |
| HSE 7685 | STINGRAY ME |
| HSE 7677 | TYRANT SUPER ME |
| HSE 7666 | AGRIKIL |
| HSE 7453 | CIMETROL |
| HSE 7335 | TYRANT 50/50 SE |
| HSE 7666 | AGRIKIL |

Other alphacypermethrin products to be affected include:

| | |
|---|---|
| HSE 8166 | Alphamost PLUS |
| HSE 8159 | Alphamost SUPA-6 |
| HSE 7858 | ALPHA-SST |
| HSE 9871 | DIGRAIN AC |
| HSE 8137 | ALPHA PRO+ |
| HSE 7928 | ACTIBIOL FLOW |
| HSE 8517 | KILLGERM ALPHAMAX PLUS |

## PelGar announce article 95 impacts on pyriproxyfen products

The following products are also being removed from the PelGar range and will only be available for purchase until 29th July 2015:

| | |
|---|---|
| HSE 6234 | NYLAR 100 |
| HSE 6373 | NYLAR 4EW |

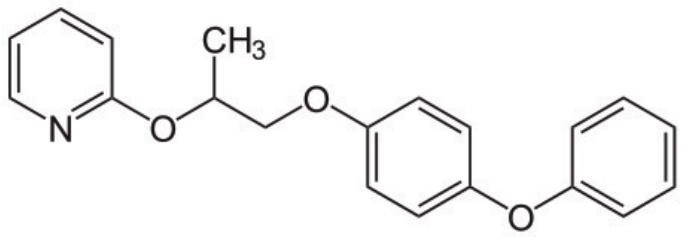
In this case, the products may be used until 31st January 2016. All stocks must be used or disposed of by this final deadline of 31st January 2016.

Nylar 4EW will be supported by PelGar but the product will be out of the market for a period while PelGar completes the formulation dossier and HSE reviews the submission.

## Article 95 impacts on other alphacypermethrin products

BASF are on the article 95 list as the approved substance supplier for alphacypermethrin, so Fendona will remain as an alphacypermethrin option.

Apart from Fendona 6SC, all other products based on alphacypermethrin will be withdrawn, so it is not just PelGar products that will be affected. This means that users will be faced, temporarily, with just one alphacypermethrin product for professional pest control. Thankfully, Fendona 6SC is well-known for its broad-spectrum efficacy, residuality and rapid knockdown.




Chemical Structure of
**PYRIPROXYFEN**

## Alternatives to pyriproxyfen

As far as resistance management goes, it is of concern that pyriproxyfen products will be unavailable temporarily, as insect growth regulators (IGRs) have become an integral part of successful bedbug control treatments in recent years.

Having scoured the list of approved products on the HSE website, PCN notes that there is at least a professional use IGR option available in the UK. This is Biopren BFS, a trigger spray containing S-methoprene (a Babolna Bio active ingredient) as the IGR and pyrethrins as a knockdown / flushing agent.

Biopren BFS is available in the UK through Agropharm, who have interestingly just been acquired by PelGar.

Pyriproxyfen aside, there are currently no juvenile hormone analogues available for use in public health pest control. Many users will have selected this active ingredient for purposes of resistance management against species other than bedbugs and there is no direct alternative to pyriproxyfen.

However, there are still options available for resistance management, with different modes of action to the synthetic pyrethroids.

Options for resistance management include but are not limited to:

- Ficam W (bendiocarb)
- Ficam D (bendiocarb)
- Diatomaceous earth

As pyrethroids will temporarily be used without combination with pyriproxyfen, it is recommended that users select the more advanced and potent 4th generation pyrethroids, especially for bedbug control.

Fourth generation pyrethroid products include but are not limited to:

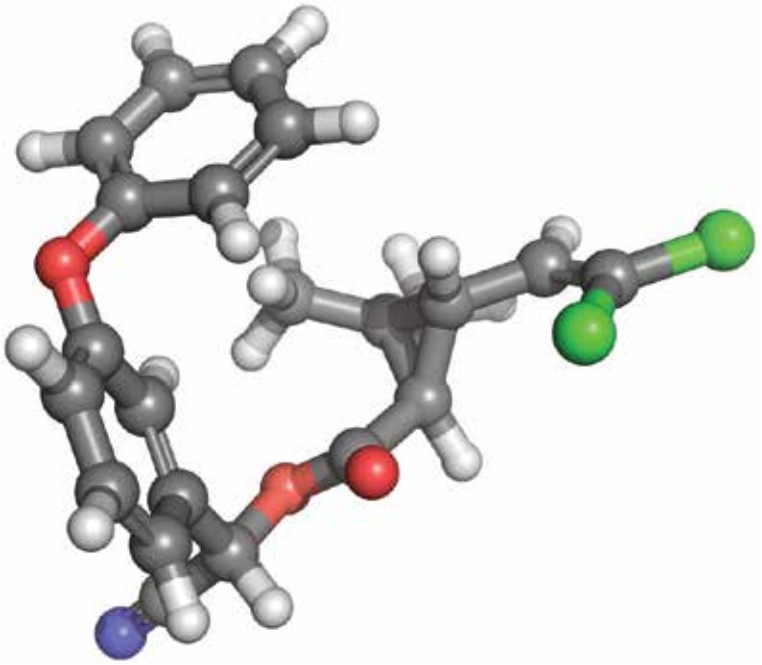
- Demand CS (lambda-cyhalothrin, with 16-18 weeks residual and horizontal transfer of microcapsules)
- K-Othrine WG250 (deltamethrin, with up to 12 weeks residual)
- Fendona (alphacypermethrin)
- Phobi-dose (Imiprothrin as a knockdown and cyphenothrin with a residual effect of up to 3 months)

It would be easy to be downbeat about the temporary withdrawal of familiar and effective products, especially when it comes to bedbug control.

However, one way to look at this is that it could provide an opportunity, and those of us who are inventive enough to utilise other control options could steal a march on the competition.

There are some other options for resistance management that will remain and physical control methods such as steam treatments could prove to be an excellent option. If that still isn't comforting, it is probably wise to stock up on relevant products that are due to be withdrawn!

Chemical Structure of
**ALPHACYPERMETHRIN**



# MAKING A MOUNTAIN OUT OF A MOLEHILL?

## CONCERNS ARE RAISED OVER THE HUMANENESS OF **MOLE TRAPS**

**Mole traps have been flying off the shelves of pest control distributors in recent weeks and demand has been extremely high, suggesting that mole activity has been on the up. With all this mole work coming in, it is timely to review current methods and a recently published scientific paper raises some important questions.**

Mole traps such as the Duffus and scissor trap have come under scrutiny, with concerns being raised regarding their humaneness. Mole traps fall under the **Small Ground Vermin Traps Order 1958**, so they are exempt from the welfare approvals required under the Spring Trap Approval Order(s) (various years) for spring traps. However, recent information regarding the humaneness of these commonly used mole traps has come to light following research undertaken by welfare experts.

The work by **Baker *et al*** was published this year and is found in volume 24 of the journal Animal Welfare. Baker and colleagues reported on their findings from field studies where 50 moles were trapped in southern England from winter 2008 until summer 2009.

In order to assess the welfare impacts of Duffus and scissor traps, moles were examined via post-mortem and x-ray techniques, to define possible cause of death and injuries sustained.

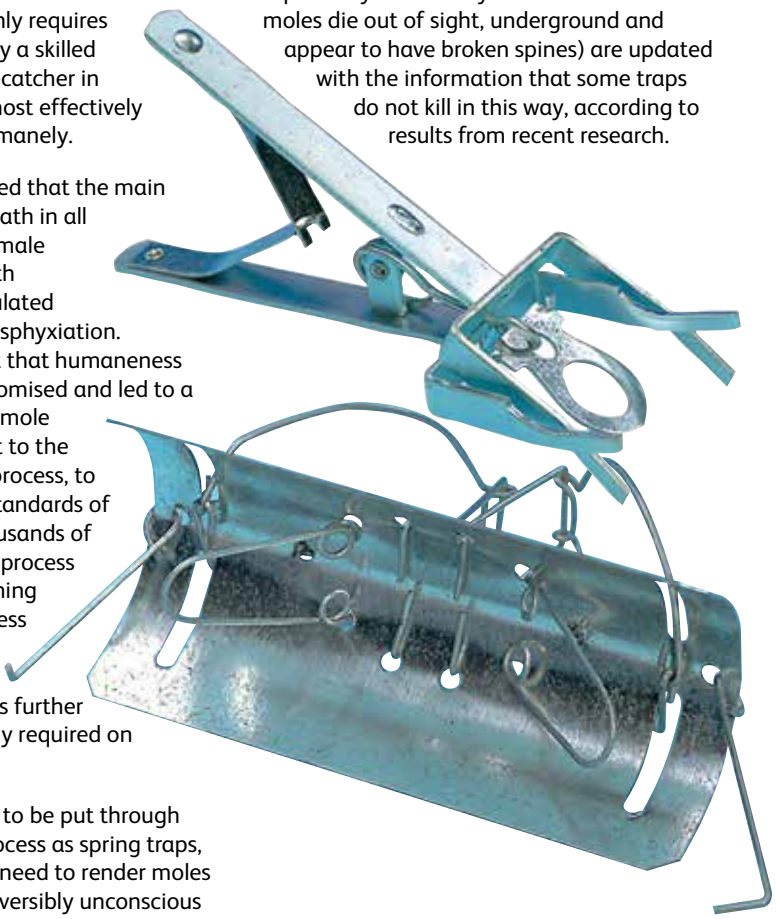
It is known that damage to the skull or upper cervical vertebrae causes immediate unconsciousness in moles, which can be a more humane route. A major finding of the study was that no moles sustained damage to these areas in the trapping field trials, a result which has important welfare implications. Mole-catchers will probably have questions regarding this, with a likely one being 'Surely the skill of the operator is just as important as the quality of the trap?'

The Duffus trap certainly requires careful configuration by a skilled and experienced mole-catcher in order to catch moles most effectively and arguably most humanely.

The researchers reported that the main detectable cause of death in all moles apart from one male was acute bleeding with some individuals speculated to have also suffered asphyxiation. These findings suggest that humaneness may have been compromised and led to a recommendation that mole traps should be subject to the spring traps approval process, to 'improve the welfare standards of trapping for many thousands of moles each year.' This process would involve ascertaining times to unconsciousness and death through killing trials and it was recommended that this further investigation is urgently required on welfare grounds.

If mole traps are to be put through the same process as spring traps, they will need to render moles irreversibly unconscious within five minutes in more than or equal to 80 % of 12 tests, according to requirements in England and Wales. Welfare concerns regarding mole traps have come up in the past and they are banned in the US states of Washington and Massachusetts for this very reason.

It remains to be seen whether the findings of this research will lead to the exemption of mole traps under the Small Ground Vermin Order (1958) being lifted and such traps falling under the spring trap approval system. For now, mole-catchers who probably assumed that mole traps kill quickly by breaking skulls or vertebrae (a thought that is probably fostered by the observations that moles die out of sight, underground and appear to have broken spines) are updated with the information that some traps do not kill in this way, according to results from recent research.



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Use biocides safely. Always read the label and product information before use.

PestEX
THE PREMIER PEST CONTROL EVENT
LONDON - 25 & 26 MARCH 2015
www.pestex.org

## Once again this year's PestEx, held 25-26 March in London, smashed all previous records, and proved to be a huge draw.

The perfect combination of exhibitors and seminars brought in a whopping 17% more people over the two days compared to 2013. PestEx 2015 saw 2,242 people (including exhibitors) attend, who were attracted by the many innovative products on display, plus the range and depth of 25 technical and business seminars on offer.

Organised by the British Pest Control Association (BPCA), PestEx extended the strong international flavour of previous events, with 23% of the visitors being from outside the UK. BPCA Chief Executive, Simon Forrester, commented, "It is clear the majority of our exhibitors now sell products across international boundaries, and PestEx provides them with a perfect platform to reach pest management professionals from across the globe."

BPCA President Martin Harvey, who opened the event, commented, "I have been approached by dozens of people across the two days who've congratulated BPCA on another stand-out event. I think the quality and range of exhibitors and seminars has been the two greatest draws, closely followed by the opportunities to network with your peers from across the world. My compliments to the BPCA and Dewberry teams for their work in delivering one of the world's premier pest control events."

The first day of PestEx, Wednesday 25 March, smashed all records, with a 19% increase in visitors over the 2013 event. The Thursday, though traditionally quieter, is a chance (as many of our exhibitors put it) to have 'more in-depth conversations with customers'. This was backed up by 261 delegates who came for both days of the show, as the 279m$^2$ increase in stand space and range of back-to-back seminars and technical sessions made seeing everything in a single day a real planning challenge.

Visitors commented on the range of interesting new technologies, products and innovations that are coming through. On the Seminar and Technical Programme, PestEx provided a wide range of presentations on business, technical and practical topics; some of the highlights included:

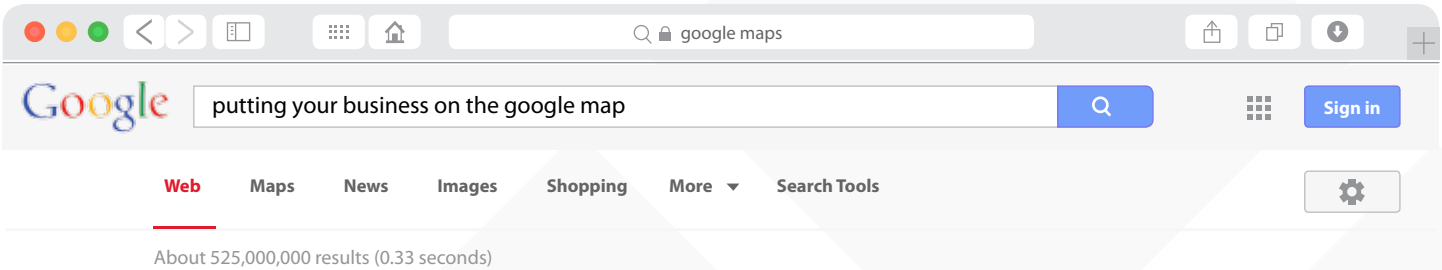
Pest Control from the Client Perspective, a panel discussion which is included speakers from the likes of M&S, Tesco and Nestle. Rodent Monitoring in the food industry; an electronic future by Dr John Simmons of Acheta Consulting Ltd. Invasive Pests: Pest Control's frontline by Clive Boase of the Pest Management Consultancy, and The UK SGAR Stewardship Regime and the role of CRRU presented by Dr Alan Buckle and supported by a variety of CRRU members.

It wasn't just the exhibitors that were innovating; PestEx used 'silent seminars' where delegates wore headphones and the speakers spoke in to microphones in order to keep unnecessary noise to a minimum. BPCA Events Officer, Lauren Carter, explains, "By using this headphone system we not only gave every person in the seminars the opportunity to hear our speakers clearly, but it also allowed us to record the sessions, copies of which will be on the BPCA website in April."

The last word must go to BPCA Chief Executive, Simon Forrester, who said, "We were really pleased to see the volume and quality of people attending the show. I've been organising trade exhibitions for over 20 years, and this is the best response I've ever had, only surpassing the 2013 event. I want to express my personal thanks to the visitors and exhibitors who travelled so far to make the event such a clear success."

PestEx 2017 dates have been set for 22 and 23 March 2017 at the ExCel in London again.

**www.bpca.org.uk/pestex**




# Putting your business on the Google map

A simple way to improve your visibility and promote your business locally is by setting up a Google My Business page. It couldn't be simpler to set up and could really help you generate work. What are you waiting for?

Google is undoubtedly the digital generation's answer to the Yellow Pages. The once essential 1000 page, neon doorstop is now virtually redundant and replaced with a simple search engine accessed through your laptop, tablet or smart phone. In March 2015 statistics showed that Google unsurprisingly dominated the UK search engine market, handling 88.12% of all queries. Microsoft's Bing was second with 7.09% and Yahoo the next best with 3.61%. This superiority has meant that the Holy Grail for every business is to feature as high up on the search engines as possible.

There may be a way to help you gain more enquiries using Google and raise your visibility without worrying about improving your website and tackling the tricky minefield of Search Engine Optimisation (SEO), Pay Per Click (PPC) and algorithms. Google now gives preference in the search engines to local businesses, and this has provided you with a real opportunity to climb the Google ladder.

Google My Business allows you enter your essential company information such as phone number, website, opening times and address. Google treats this page separately to your website; because the information is uploaded directly to the source, the chances of featuring higher in the rankings are greatly improved. The opportunity exists for small business who maybe don't have the budget to create or maintain a website to easily set up an account and have a Google presence. Obviously it is preferable to have a website too but this will depend on your company resources.

You can add pictures to this account which may make your page more interesting; it will also allow customers to review your service. Giving your customers an incentive to leave a review will help you build your online reputation. Be aware that this can mean negative reviews if your service is poor. The account will give you a marker on Google Maps. When searches are made for your business service, anyone looking for a local pest controller on their doorstep may find you via the map. The account also works in conjunction with Google+ which could be a benefit should you choose to further your digital output using social media.


To get set up go to www.google.co.uk/business and register your FREE business account. Be clear when describing your services as this will directly affect how people find you. To get the most out of your Google listing you will have to verify the account. Once set up and logged in click verify under your address. You will be sent a postcard to your business address which will contain a PIN number to complete your account verification.

# PCN INTERVIEW

# STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

## YOUR COUNCIL PEST CONTROL SERVICES

PCN MET UP WITH SHAUN BAKER, HEAD OF PEST CONTROL AT STAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL, TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE BEE HIVE PROJECT

### CAN YOU TELL US A LITTLE BIT ABOUT YOURSELF, YOUR TEAM AND YOUR AUTHORITY?

The Stafford Borough council is part of a two-tier local authority. The borough has a long established large area with rural and urban regions. In terms of pest control, we have to balance the urban issues with the rural issues so the problems we encounter are quite diverse. For over 50 years we have been established as a pest control service but, of course, with a very public centered emphasis. The employees that we have are all trained and most of them have been with us for 20 years plus; I fall in to this category.

I'm an Environmental Services Officer so my background is to do with industry, pollution, domestic issues, nuisance and neighbourhood issues; that kind of thing. We are quite a varied team but we can draw on a lot of other services like leisure and housing. A lot of the domestic work we do is obviously supporting other aspects of the council's work as well, so we've got quite a, well I think, good broad community basis to us.

We have got a team of four pest controllers at the moment. Four years ago, because of the cuts to the local authorities, the council went through a very difficult financing time and the decision was made to seek a partner through other local authorities to see if we could share some of the back office costs. At that point we formed a successful alliance with South Staffordshire Council; the two of us now run under the brand 'Your Council Pest Control Services.' We've taken the view that everything between the two councils is open and shared, so that the South Staffordshire Council are fully part of our meetings, our decision making process, how much we bill and some of the political aspects as well; so it's fully inclusive.

### WHAT IS THE BEE HIVE PROJECT?

It is a project whereby we are seeking to create hives that will enable us to re-house honey bees and then use the honey that is produced to give to charitable, mayoral type bodies in the public interest, so it drives a virtuous circle of public interest.

We currently re-house bumble bees, where we can, instead of terminating them and we had an idea for honey bees following the opening up of roof-space after the installation of some solar panels.

The project will begin with three venues for the hives and we have had the help of sponsorship from Killgerm, BASF and Bayer in order to do this.

Pest control is normally linked with termination, but when it comes to bees we do what we can to minimise those that we have to dispatch. Tackling honey bees is not appropriate. When honey bees, or any bees, are in a house where people are living and the colony or nest is causing real problems there's very little that we can do legally to prevent those bees causing a problem, but of course some bees we can. Already where we have bumble bee infestations causing problems we take those away where we can, and we re-house them at our own plant nursery.

This got us thinking then about honey bees and other bees that we could re-house if we had the skills. So instead of them causing a problem to the householder or school, we could actually take them away somewhere that they would be of greater benefit.

### HAVE YOU FOUND AN INCREASE IN CALLS FOR HONEYBEES FROM PEOPLE THINKING THEY ARE WASPS?

Yes, lots and lots. This is a big issue, when it's up in your attic or on the top of the roof it's hard for the individual to say, "Oh that's not a wasp" so of course we have a chargeable ID service, which means that if it is wasps, we can deal with it there and then.

We get a lot of calls about masonry bees and also bees which are non-native species; they are coming in to some of the Southern areas. So those again are re-housed where we can, but of course having somewhere to put them is the tricky bit.

### WHAT ARE THE THREE VENUES FOR THIS PROJECT, AND WHY DID YOU CHOOSE THEM?

The three venues are really easy to choose, because it's a combination of safety for the public, a public area with plenty of flowers, but also a public area with public interest; something that will grab people. The obvious choice was to put the honey bees near to where we put our bumble bees, and that is in the area of our own plant nursery. This is where plants are grown for hanging baskets that are placed in the town centres and to make everywhere look pretty.

The plants obviously benefit from all of the bumble bees that we've put out; honey bees would be a thousand times better. So we plan one hive at our local plant nursery, that's run by the council, then a similar venue down in the South Staffordshire district which will be near to the leisure centre, which again is a wildlife planted up area with safe boundaries so the public won't be in direct contact with the hives; but also something that is easily maintained and helps the local environment.

The final piece in the jigsaw will be the crematorium and that one really is all about green credentials and making a crematorium and cemetery more valuable to the public. Hence there's a push for a natural planted area, with wild flowers sowing and of course hand-in-hand with that would go bees and it's a virtuous cycle again.

## DO YOU PLAN ON MORE THAN THREE HIVES IN 2015?

We are aiming for four hives in total; the fourth being funded by the council.

## WHAT ARE THE TIME SCALES FOR THIS YEAR?

June will be a big publicity launch, and we'll have lots of photographs and perhaps local news interest as the hives are installed.

## IS THE AUTHORITY GIVING YOU THE BACKING? HAVE YOU GOT ANY SUPPORT? ARE PEOPLE ON BOARD WITH IT OUTSIDE OF THE PEST CONTROL AREA?

Yes we've had to seek the permission of the crematorium, the leisure services and Street Scene. It can be rolled out as a great deal, it's got a lot of legs in that many public bodies have also got interests in this type of community well-being, for instance, the Councils promote a lot of the nature reserves..

## ARE THE PEST CONTROLLERS EXCITED ABOUT THE PROJECT?

Absolutely yes they really are. I think because of the nature of the job you do see a lot of creatures killed which inevitably you become hardened to. Nobody likes harming bees whether by accident or by intent. Certainly, even problems like wasp nests, if you spend all day, all week battering nature; it's nice to put something back. So we are all enthused by this, I think it's caught everybody.



SHAUN BAKER

SABRA FEARON


# REACHING NEW HEIGHTS

The Tech-Reach Bait Pro is a fantastic new tool that gives technicians the ability to extend their reach in applying gel baits. No bait is wasted because the tube attaches on the end of the 24" extension. The Tech-Reach Bait Pro saves time by negating the need for ladders and moving customers' items to place gel bait. The application gun is not included with this product.

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# THE WEDGE

Break-back monitoring devices, based on radio technology using a battery-powered radio transmitter. This discreet unit is designed to work with most professional mouse and rat traps, in domestic and commercial situations.

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# RATIMOR BRODIFACOUM


**Sachets and Trays:** Highly efficient pasta bait with excellent palatability for use in and around buildings. Packed in individual 10g sachets, or in a unique tray presentation, these are essential for rodent control purposes.

**Blocks:** A wax block rodenticide that is highly resistant to various environment specifics. Especially suitable for use in moist places, can be used in and around buildings.

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# NARA LIQUID

**NARA LIQUID IS A HIGH-TECH, NON-TOXIC BAIT FOR RATS AND MICE.**

**Designed to fit on snap traps and especially suited for deployment in dry areas, the bait also is suitable to use within the food industry. Each vanilla scented ball lasts for up to two weeks and is proven to be highly attractive throughout this period.**


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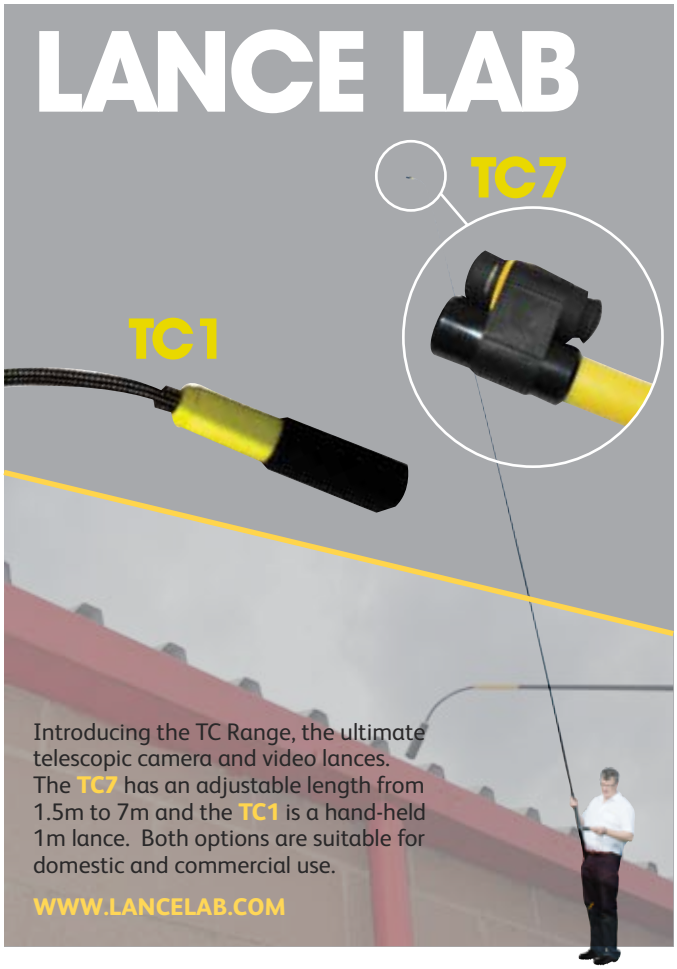


Introducing the TC Range, the ultimate telescopic camera and video lances. The **TC7** has an adjustable length from 1.5m to 7m and the **TC1** is a hand-held 1m lance. Both options are suitable for domestic and commercial use.

**WWW.LANCELAB.COM**

# RATPAK HAVE THREE NEW MEMBERS


Ratpack have launched three new bait stations to complement their hugely successful Ultrabait VR.

The Quicklock Ultra is made from steel and is a vandal resistant rat bait station. The other two stations are made from plastic but have steel locking mechanisms.

The Quicklock Durabait is a tamper resistant rat bait station and the Quicklock Microbait is a tamper resistant mouse bait station. All three use the new versa key which allows the user to quickly re-lock the station. They are available in black and green.

WWW.RATPAK.CO.UK

# CAUSING A STORM


BASF have just launched two new additions to their Storm range of rodenticides, Storm Mini Bits and Storm Pasta.

Both products contains 0.005 % Flocoumafen, a highly potent anticoagulant.

Storm Mini Bits are a moist, non-grain soft block for general-purpose use which is especially valuable in dry environments, where competition from other food sources is high. Storm Pasta is loose bait which is exceptionally palatable bait due to its food quality cereal and sugar formulation. Both are approved for use in and around buildings although Storm Pasta is specifically designed for indoor use as a complement to other baits used externally.

**WWW.BASF.CO.UK**

MILNERS Solicitors

# PARENTAL LEAVE NEW LAWS

**Recent changes to the law regarding parental leave now mean that as an employer, you may be obliged to grant requests for 'maternity leave' from individuals who were not previously entitled to it.**

Ex-Employment Relations Minister, Jo Swinson, introduced Shared Parental Leave legislation in April, stating, "The old maternity leave system reinforced the archaic assumptions that the bulk of childcare responsibilities should be undertaken by mums, and failed to recognise the vitally important role that dads and partners have to play."

Society has moved on from the days where couples had pre-determined roles and the change in the law to introduce shared parental leave not only reflects but encourages these changes, supporting same-sex and adoptive parents. This has a knock on effect on the employers of new and soon to be new parents and it pays to make sure you're prepared.

**Impacts on your business**

Prior to these changes, employers only had to plan to cover the absence of new mothers or a primary carer for up to twelve months (sometimes longer), with fathers/partners entitled to up to two weeks statutory leave. With parents now able to share the leave entitlement, employers have to plan for the absence of new fathers, or the second parent in the case of same sex couples, for up to six months, regardless of whether the primary carer works for them.

Impacts for employers vary, both in terms of people taking time off and what happens when they return. If you have a high percentage of male staff, impacts include the potential to see more of your employees requesting (and being entitled to) shared parental leave. Conversely, if you have a high percentage of female staff you may find that your employees are returning to work sooner than with the previous regime.

**Impacts on your policies and procedures**

From an Employment law perspective, there are impacts on an employer's policies, procedures and contracts, from how you cover absences – e.g. team members acting-up or sharing work, or employing temporary and fixed-term staff to cover shorter or longer absences – to managing employees' return to work.

It pays in the long-run have your policies in place to avoid exposure to risk of falling foul of regulations or risk of claims for unfair treatment. If everyone is clear what is acceptable to the business, how the process will be managed and how to make requests there should be few, if any, opportunities for grievances to arise. Specifically companies will now need bespoke Shared Parental Leave Policies so it is clear to both the employer and employee what the procedure and entitlement is.

**Who's included?**

These new rights apply to individuals who have had a baby on or after the 5th of April 2015, and to individuals who have adopted a child on or after the 5th of April 2015. Shared parental leave comprises of a maximum of fifty weeks. The amount of leave that will be taken by each parent will entirely depend on how much they decide to share between themselves. This means that the amount of time employees take off may vary. The first two weeks post birth (or four weeks in the case of factory workers) leave is mandatory for the woman to take and cannot be shared.

Parents are entitled to share all the benefits of parental leave, including Shared Parental Pay and the previous Keep in Touch days have been replaced with up to 20 Shared Parental Leave In Touch (SPLIT) days each, on top of the 10 days available on maternity leave, to enable employees to attend work or work related activities.

**Can I refuse shared parental leave?**

Not if an employee's request is for one continuous period of shared parental leave and is submitted with at least eight weeks' notice and the employee has been employed for at least 26 weeks. Requests for a discontinuous block of leave may also be refused provided the employer responds to the request within two weeks.

Of course, sharing is not compulsory and employees are unlikely to all produce offspring all at the same time. There's no cause for panic and for those employers who plan ahead the situation should be manageable.

**Employer Checklist:**

- Ensure that you are aware of the recent changes to the law surrounding parental leave. Further information can be found here.
- Develop a Shared Parental Leave Policy which outlines your employees' right to share leave and pay and communicate this to your staff
- Update any current policies that will be affected by the changes in the law.

If you are affected by any of the issues addressed in this article, or any legal issues, please don't hesitate to contact Giles or Jodie on 0113 245 0852 or visit our website at www.milnerslaw.com for further details.

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# MAKE THE MOST OF THE NEW BASIS PROMPT WEBSITE

## www.basispestcontrol.co.uk

**WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE ARE CURRENTLY IN THE PROCESS OF LAUNCHING A FRESH NEW WEBSITE TO HELP BRING IMPROVEMENTS TO OUR MEMBERS. OUR NEW WEBSITE WILL BE FASTER, EASIER TO NAVIGATE AND BRING A RANGE OF NEW DEVELOPMENTS, INCLUDING:**

A new, **fully responsive design** aimed to provide an optimal viewing and browsing experience across multiple platforms.

An **online application form**. This section will enable you to join BASIS PROMPT, or re-join if your membership has lapsed. Joining online is quick and easy and even allows you to upload a photo for your ID card.

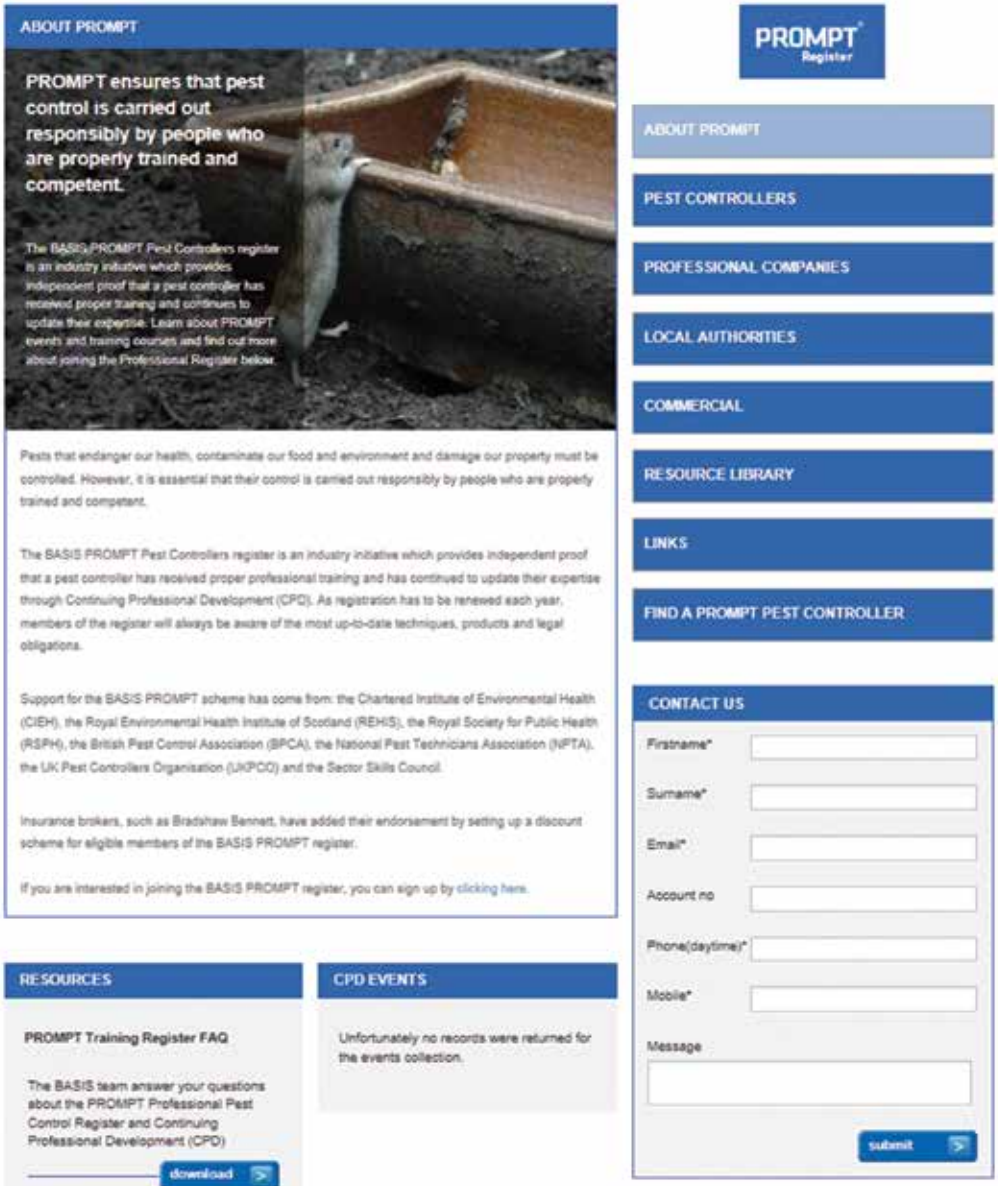
An updated and improved **event diary** including a map identifying the venue location. And staying on the map theme, the much requested facility to find a BASIS PROMPT member via a searchable map.

Members will have access to a secure member's area where you can view and edit your personal detail, see an **overview of your CPD points** for the current membership year and previous years of membership with print and e-mail functionality.

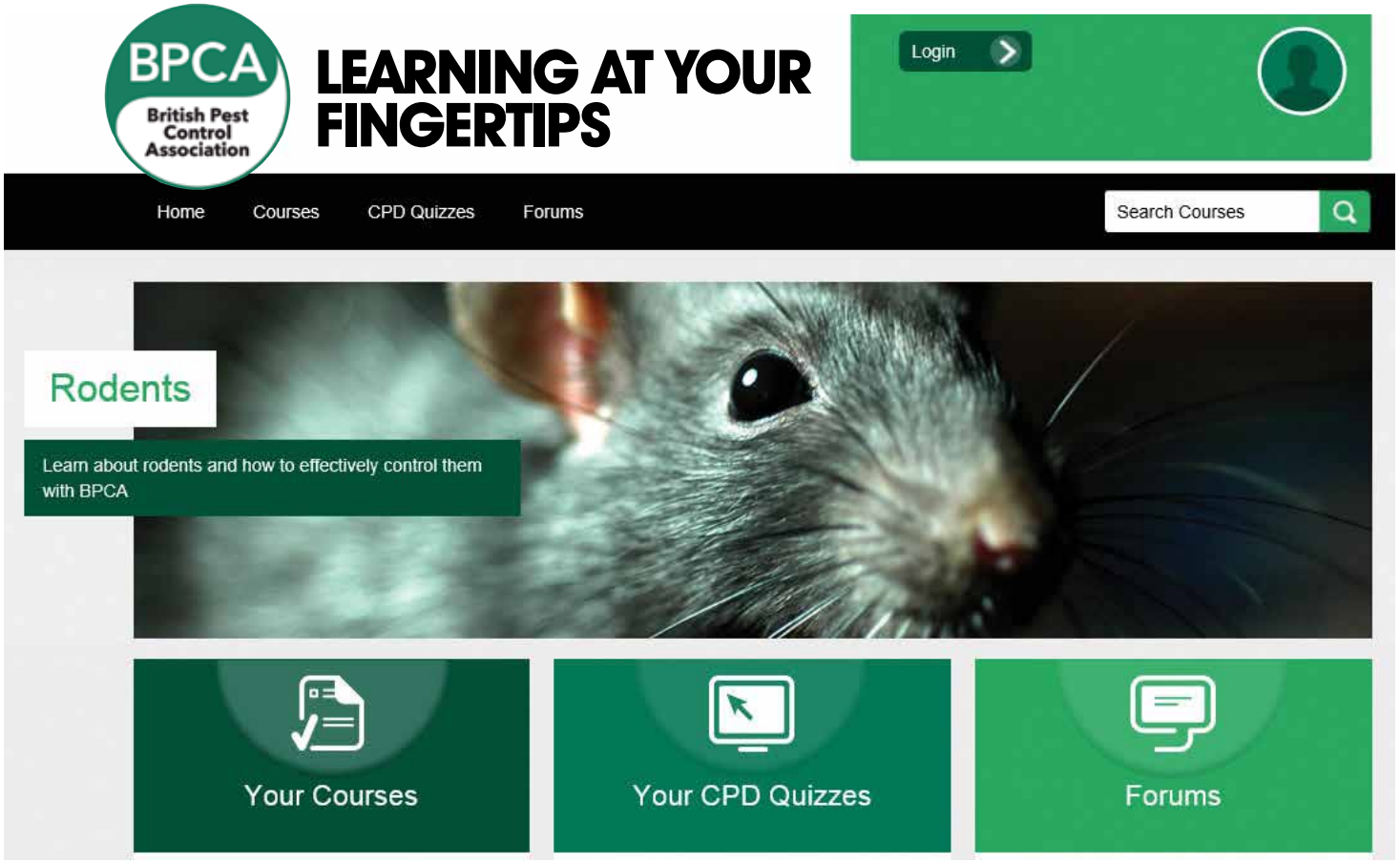
A more modern, fresher interface, which is fully optimised for user navigation will allow the BASIS PROMPT team to continue to bring our members improved online resources and member benefits.

We're currently in the final stages of the build phase of our new website right now. Thank you for bearing with us but the wait will be worth it.

**KEEP AN EYE ON OUR CURRENT WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION SOON!**




PROMPT® Register




With constant pressure on employers to keep technicians out in the field and earning money, BPCA has launched a new online learning portal to allow you and your team to get trained and stay up to date with zero travel costs, at weekends or in-work downtime, in the bath or in the van… BPCA Training Manager, Mandy McCarthy-Ward, explains the advantage of the new training portal.

### What is the new BPCA online Learning Portal?

The system has been designed to be your one stop shop for learning, using state-of-the-art technology and available on multiple platforms. All the latest online courses and CPD quizzes are available to keep your CPD points up to date.

BPCA's first online course to be added to the learning portal is the updated version of our current online course, the Introduction to Pest Management. This course provides online learning appropriate for studying and taking the RSPH/BPCA Level 2 Award or Certificate in Pest Management. It complements and supports classroom learning and the manual. For some individuals with experience it offers a great refresher and quickly identifies gaps in knowledge.

### BPCA already has online learning, how is this different?

The new portal can be viewed with improved interactivity and is visually better for users. Users are also able to access questions to aid their learning.

### What are the advantages of studying online?

Online learning can be accessed where or whenever required allowing you to study at times and locations to suit you and in short bursts or longer sessions – it fits in with your life style. Unlike a classroom course, you do not have to study all of the subjects over a set period of time. You can also study any subject as many times as you need. By using a manual such as BPCA's newly-updated British Pest Management manual, you can enhance your learning further. Also, the online portal has links to external content such as videos or research materials to add to your learning – something not available in the classroom. You can also download and print the certificate immediately when passed.

### What costs are involved and where can I buy it?

The course is licenced per person. You can pay for a one year licence for all three modules at a cost of £300+vat for members or £450+vat for non-members or each module can be bought separately; modules are £100+vat for members, and £150+vat for non-members removing any penalties if you just study one part of the syllabus.

The whole package is available now online and will be fully live by the end of June 2015; to purchase you just call the BPCA on 01332 225107 or email training@bpca.org.uk . Visit the www.bpca.org.uk to find out more.

### What happens once I have purchased the BPCA online learning course?

You will receive your personal BPCA online learning account and will be able to start studying straight away. Once you are ready to take your exam, visit the BPCA website www.bpca.org.uk to find out the exam dates for venues near you.

### What happens if I don't pass all three units?

You have access to your online course for up to 12 months, so don't worry; you can revise the areas you need to and then once you are ready you can book to re-sit the unit(s) you need.

### Is there only the online course for the Level 2 Award in Pest Management?

Initially BPCA will be offering the online learning course which is appropriate for taking the exam for Level 2 Award or Certificate in Pest Management.

Soon you will be able to purchase the online learning course for rodent control. We're also moving across all of our many free CPD quizzes, and will also have support for examination techniques – useful for those of us who last sat an exam many years ago!

In the future more online learning courses will be introduced to enable you to continue to develop in your chosen career pathway.

National Pest Technicians Association

# Opportunities – for those willing to take them.

It is not always easy to cope with change. If you are settled in your ways it can be difficult and unsettling to change things, but sometimes it is necessary – and sometimes changes can bring about new opportunities.

There are over 200,000 farmers in the UK with around 6,000 game keepers and whilst some are already trained to use SGARs safely and effectively, the vast majority are not. Getting these up to speed will be a major task to achieve in the next 12 months or so. It is almost inevitable that many simply won't be trained in time and therefore won't be able to buy the 'Stewardship Regime' labelled SGARs come June next year. What then? The rats and mice will still be here.

This has got to be a major opportunity for those who are suitably trained and willing to engage with their local farming and game keeping communities.

The same goes for aluminium phosphide. Come November this year, many farmers and landscape gardeners are going to find that they can no longer pop along to their local farm shop to get some 'gas' to sort out their rabbits and moles. Aluminium phosphide is also likely to become more important in the control of rats in the 'open areas'. What then for those that don't have the proper 'ticket'?

This has got to be another opportunity for professional pest controllers who invest in the training. Call your suppliers for further information on training.

And where are the growth areas in urban pest control? What pests are becoming increasingly important in and around our towns and cities? How about urban foxes and urban deer? Could wild boar become a serious pest in the future? Could you cope with requests for help with these pests?

We believe that there will be an increasing need for specialist 'Wildlife Managers' in the future, which is why the NPTA are starting to run training courses in these subjects and are working closely with Police Wildlife Officers to ensure that they use properly-trained and professional technicians to deal with the growing number of animals injured in road traffic accidents. For more information on our courses on urban fox and deer control, call our office at 01773 717716.

These are some significant opportunities for pest controllers to develop themselves in specialist areas or to enable them to continue to use key products which will soon be denied to those who have traditionally been able to use them, but won't be for much longer.

RSPH
ROYAL SOCIETY FOR PUBLIC HEALTH
VISION, VOICE AND PRACTICE

# REVIEW OF RSPH PEST MANAGEMENT QUALIFICATIONS

You are probably all now aware of the SGAR stewardship scheme and its requirement for professional pest controllers to have obtained relevant qualifications in order to be able to purchase and use second generation anticoagulant rodenticides.

All of the current RSPH and RSPH/BPCA qualifications in pest management have been listed as 'approved proof of rodenticide competence certificates' by the Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use (CRRU), which is overseeing the Stewardship Scheme.

During the development of the scheme the RSPH/BPCA Level 2 Award in Pest Management was recognised as the 'gold standard' qualification for anyone wishing to use rodenticides under the terms of the Scheme. Additionally all of the RSPH pest control qualifications that were in use prior to the Level 2 Award have been approved as full 'grandfather' qualifications.

This means that any pest controllers who have received any RSPH pest control qualification are able to purchase and use SGARS when the Stewardship Scheme is fully implemented.

For those of you who do not already hold one of these qualifications, RSPH has developed a L2 Award in the Safe Use of Rodenticides qualification. The qualification was submitted to the CRRU Training and Certification Work Group, which scrutinises and approves all applications for approved proof of rodenticide competence certificates.

The qualification has now been CRRU approved and RSPH will proceed to submit the qualification to Ofqual, the regulatory authority for Awarding Organisations. The qualification can be delivered in a day, and the intention is to assess candidates by a 25-question multiple-choice test. The qualification will also be of interest to anyone taking, or intending to take, the L2 Award or Certificate, as the faster turn-around of results for this much shorter new qualifications means that successful candidates will quickly be able to purchase and use SGARs without having to finish the larger qualifications first and wait for the results.

July 2016, which is the deadline for the Stewardship Scheme to come into effect, probably seems a long way off. Much closer is the November deadline for users of aluminium phosphide. The number of candidates taking the RSPH Level 2 Award in Using Aluminium Phosphide Safely for the Management of Vertebrate Pests has shot up since the turn of the year, but there is still a large number of you out there who will need to obtain the qualification in order to continue to use this product after November, and places on courses are likely to get filled quickly as the deadline approaches. The RSPH website (www.rsph.org.uk) has full details of all centres approved to offer this qualification.

Lastly, RSPH has been a regular exhibitor at the pest control trade exhibitions PestTech and PestEx. This year we will also be exhibiting for the first time at Cereals, a 2-day event in Lincolnshire for arable farmers. Our qualifications in the Safe Use of Rodenticides and Aluminium Phosphide are of particular relevance to farmers. As well as advertising these qualifications we will also be able to point farmers who do not want to do the work themselves in the direction of suitably qualified pest controllers.

2015 TRAINING DATES

# Your guide to the pest control 2015 training dates

**Killgerm Training run courses nationwide offering different types of courses for different levels of experience and knowledge. Details of all course dates and locations are available online at www.killgerm.com/pest-control-training-calendar; there is also a full list in the Killgerm catalogue on pages 227-229. For further information or to book your place on a course call 01924 268445 or email training@killgerm.com.**

Killgerm® TRAINING

To book visit www.killgerm.com

Salisbury **23 Sep 2015** | Bretton **13 Oct 2015** | Nr Newmarket **12 Nov 2015**

## SAFE USE OF ALUMINIUM PHOSPHIDE FOR VERTEBRATE CONTROL

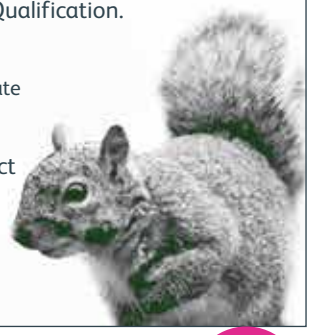
A classroom and field-based training course in preparation for separate assessment by City & Guilds or other awarding body.

COURSE CONTENT:
- Legislation and safety
- Practical control methods

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?
Anyone looking to obtain the Level 2 Safe Use of Aluminium Phosphide for Vertebrate Control Qualification.

Award: Killgerm® Certificate
CPD Points: Awarded as appropriate

Please note you will need to contact an appropriate assessment centre to arrange your assessment.



OSSETT **19th Aug 2015**

## PRINCIPLES INVOLVED IN CONTROLLING PESTS IN DRAINAGE SYSTEMS

Many rat infestations are likely to have originally emanated from a drainage system. This course explains, in practical terms, the relationship between rodents and insects and our drainage systems. The aim of the course is to give you the knowledge and confidence to understand when to link drainage system defects with pest infestations, how to treat them and remedial action which can be taken.

This course is run by a leading industry expert.

**Course content:**
- How a drainage system works and terminology
- How and why drainage systems may harbour rodents and insects
- Defects to look out for and how to recognise them
- What treatment, if necessary, and how to carry it out
- Health & Safety when working around drainage systems

**Who should attend?**
Pest control operators who would like to know more about the interaction between drainage systems and pest infestations.

Award: Killgerm® Certificate
CPD Points: Awarded as appropriate

OSSETT **22nd Jul 2015** | PERTH **12th May 2015**

## PEST CONTROL PROCEDURES IN FOOD PREMISES

**Course content:**
- Legal aspects of controlling pests in food premises (production, storage and retail)
- Biology and recognition of rodent pests in food premises
- Biology and recognition of insect pests in food premises
- Control procedures for rodent and insect pests
- Monitoring of rodent and insect pests

On completion an attendance certificate will be awarded.

**Who should attend?**
Pest controllers who are wanting to take on the control of pests in the food industry.

Award: Killgerm® Certificate
CPD Points: Awarded as appropriate

OSSETT **29th Sept 2015**

## FLY CONTROL ON WASTE MANAGEMENT SITES

We generate about 177 million tonnes of waste every year in England alone. With the move towards a 'zero waste economy' waste management sites are springing up all over the UK.

Lack of knowledge and experience amongst the operators and pest controllers has led to some alarming fly infestations.

**Course content:**
- The need to monitor
- Distribution of flies
- Treatment methods

**Who should attend?**
Pest control operators who would like to know more about managing fly monitoring and control on waste management sites.

Award: Killgerm® Certificate
CPD Points: Awarded as appropriate

full list in the Killgerm catalogue on pages 227-229

## PESTTRAIN 2015 TRAINING DATES

| Qualification | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| RSPH 5 Day*~ Exam included | 14-18 | | 9-13 | |
| RSPH 3 Day*~ Exam included | | 7-9 | | |
| Safe Use Aluminium Phosphide*~ | 9 | 1 | | |
| Effective Rodent SGARS*~ | 10 & 30 | 20 | 19 | 7 |
| Wasps | | | | |
| Seasonal Insects | | | | |
| Multi Occupancy Insects | | | | |
| Managing and preventing Feral Birds | | 13 | | |

PestTrain

To book visit www.pesttrain.co.uk

**Bespoke courses can be arranged and group booking for small number events can be delivered**

**email oliver@pesttrain.co.uk**

## NPTA 2015 TRAINING DATES

npta
National Pest Technicians Association

To book visit www.npta.org.uk

| Courses | 2015 Dates |
|---|---|
| Eastern Training Day | Wednesday 30th September 2015 |
| PestTech Exhibition | Wednesday 4th November 2015 |

## BPCA 2015 TRAINING DATES

BPCA British Pest Control Association

ONLINE CPD

To book visit www.bpca.org.uk

| Courses | 2015 Dates | Venue | Member cost (exc-vat) | Non-member (exc-vat) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Modular Pest Control Course | 4 June - 3 July<br>24 September - 23 October | BPCA Offices, Derby<br>North, Venue - TBC | £725 | £925 |
| General Pest Control Course (Residential) | 13-18 September<br>13-18 December | University of Warwick, Coventry<br>Crowwood Hotel, Glasgow, Scotland<br>South, Venue - TBC<br>University of Warwick, Coventry | £920 | £1095 |
| Bed Bug Control | 29 September | BPCA Offices, Derby | £165 | £195 |
| Urban Bird Control and Management | 16 November | BPCA Offices, Derby | £185 | £215 |
| Starting Out in Pest Control | 4 September | BPCA Offices, Derby | £165 | £195 |
| How to Sell in the Pest Control Industry | 13-14 November | BPCA Offices, Derby | £300 | £365 |

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www.killgerm.com



# Are you ready for the WASP SEASON?

**Be prepared with our wasp season essentials!**


## When things start warming up and the sun starts shining, calls for wasp control will start flying in.

Killgerm offer everything to help ensure a profitable wasp season, from the widest product range, unrivalled technical, customer service and sales support to our expert training that is available nationwide.

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**01924 268400**.

For all our products and advice on how to combat these seasonal pests go to our website: **www.killgerm.com**

**USE BIOCIDES SAFELY. ALWAYS READ THE LABEL AND PRODUCT INFORMATION BEFORE USE.**

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