

PCN

PEST CONTROL NEWS®

THE MAGAZINE FOR THE PEST CONTROL INDUSTRY

February 2018



issue **113**

Kicking up a stink

6

Is the brown marmorated stink bug our next invasive pest?

Solar Panel Bird Proofing Installations

14

The choice of systems now available has increased as opportunities have grown.

The Return of Liquid Baits for Rodent Control

20

Experienced pest controllers have lamented the loss of anticoagulant rodenticide liquid baits ... until now!



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6

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CHANGES IN RODENTICIDE PACK SIZES 4

FROM MARCH 2018 THE HEALTH AND SAFETY EXECUTIVE (HSE) IS LIMITING RODENTICIDE PACK SIZES

KNOW YOUR FRIEND 18

THE HAIRY-FOOTED FLOWER BEE: HERE BEE-FORE YOU KNOW IT

PPC LIVE 2018 28

PPC LIVE IS COMING UP FAST - AND IT'S SHAPING UP NICELY

A NOTE ON BIRD LICENCES FOR 2018 11

A REVIEW OF THE NEW GENERAL LICENCES AND CLASS LICENCES FOR BIRD CONTROL

THE RETURN OF LIQUID BAITS 20

EXPERIENCED PEST CONTROLLERS HAVE LAMENTED THE LOSS OF ANTICOAGULANT RODENTICIDE LIQUID BAITS ... UNTIL NOW!

PEST PROTECT 2018 - BREMEN 30

FOLLOWING A SUCCESSFUL EVENT IN STUTTGART TWO YEARS AGO, THE ORGANISERS DECIDED TO BRING THE EXHIBITION TO THE NORTH OF THE COUNTRY. BREMEN DID NOT DISAPPOINT

HOLY MOLEY 14

PCN INVITES DAVID COOPER TO TALK ABOUT HIS EXPERIENCES, KNOWLEDGE AND SHARE SOME INTERESTED TALES ABOUT CATCHING MOLES

SCIENCE SENSE 26

EBOLA, FLIES, BIRDS, RATS AND RESISTANCE TO ANTIBIOTICS

COUNTDOWN TO NEW DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS GATHER PACE 32

NEW REQUIREMENTS ON COMPANIES AND ORGANISATIONS WHO HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAFEGUARDING SENSITIVE PERSONAL DATA

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Farm Assurance Schemes – Arrangements after 31st December 2017

Under transitional arrangements agreed between the Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use (CRRU) UK, all relevant stakeholder organisations and the Government Oversight Group (chaired by the Health and Safety Executive), members of farm assurance schemes whose standards involved a systematic approach to rodent pest management, with documentation and regular independent audit procedures, were considered competent to purchase professional rodenticide products for application outdoors. This transitional arrangement will end on 31st December 2017.

The CRRU UK Best Practice Work Group has completed work with farm assurance schemes which previously met the transitional requirements so that alignment may be maintained beyond the transitional period. Farm assurance schemes listed on the website have produced new standards that have been assessed by the work group and found to meet the key indicators and therefore their members will continue to be considered competent professionals for the application of rodenticides outdoors.

For the full story go to: www.pestcontrolnews.com/news/



Changes in rodenticide pack sizes

From March 2018 the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is limiting rodenticide pack sizes. There will be a phase-in and use-up period for each individual product, so speak to your supplier directly for further advice on timings. However, in general the new rodenticide pack sizes for professional pest controllers will be a minimum of 3kg. Amateur/non-professional rodenticide pack sizes will be a maximum of 300g for blocks and 150g for sachets and fresh pasta bait.

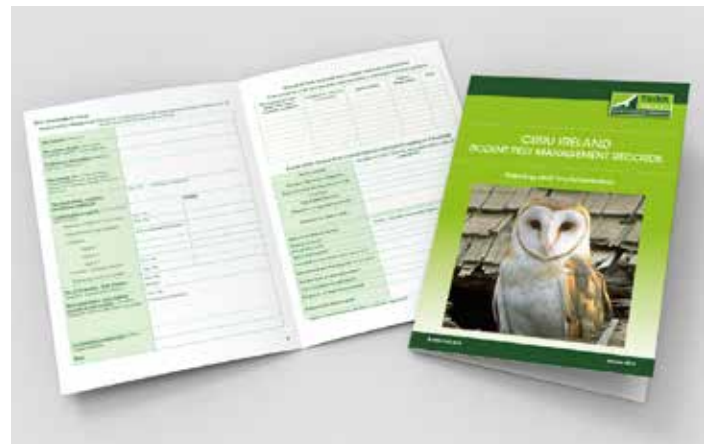
For the full story go to: www.pestcontrolnews.com/news/



Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use UK (CRRU) Launch New Website

With the vast amount of information available on the UK Rodenticide Stewardship Regime, CRRU UK have given their website a revamp. The website is easier to navigate around, condensing fundamental information for each specific user group without missing out the detail. Since the launch of the Stewardship Regime the website has been one of the most vital sources of information. Housing new features such as, report a concern and regular press releases to ensure you are always kept up-to-date.

For the full story go to: www.pestcontrolnews.com/news/



CRRU Ireland publish Rodent Pest Management Records – Planning and Implementation

The most recent publication of CRRU Irl – RODENT PEST MANAGEMENT RECORDS – Planning and Implementation has just been published on the CRRU Irl website – www.crru.ie

Recording the actions, conclusions and decisions made by pest management trained professional users (PMU's) and by professional users such as farmers, Gun Club Members and Gamekeepers to control rodents on sites they work on, is essential for both management purposes and to facilitate auditing and compliance inspections by regulatory authorities.

For the full story go to: www.pestcontrolnews.com/news/





Agrisense announce new sales manager

Curtis Gilmour are pleased to announce that Mateja Magajna Zigon has joined the business as Sales Manager for Agrisense, Silvandersson, B&G Equipment and Curtis Dyna-Fog, covering Central and Eastern Europe. Mateja is already experienced in the Pest Control Industry having previously worked with UniChem for 7 years. Mateja will work closely with European Sales Manager Dawn Bolton, who stated that due to continued expansion of the business additional resource is needed and having known Mateja's reputation within the industry she is the ideal candidate to help further grow the business.

For the full story go to: www.pestcontrolnews.com/news/



Introducing the new BPCA CEO

The British Pest Control Association is proud to announce that Ian Andrew has been appointed as its new Chief Executive, effective 1 February.

Ian Andrew is an association professional of 12 years' standing, who was Governance and Partnerships Director at the Beech Centre for People, Performance and Organisational Development in East Yorkshire.

Prior to that was National Manager for Scotland at the Chartered Management Institute, and has held senior roles in the Scottish Qualifications Authority and Scottish Hotel and Catering Industry Training Board.

His most recent success is leading on the application to the government to establish a new Institute for Organisational Development practitioners.

For the full story go to: www.pestcontrolnews.com/news/



New Marketing Manager for Killgerm Group

Killgerm Group welcomes Sophie Newton as their new Group Marketing Manager. Sophie was appointed back in October 2017 ahead of PestTech. Sophie will head up all marketing activities, all Killgerm Group divisions and cover the UK, Europe, America and Asia. "I'm excited to join the pest control industry. I've received such a warm welcome from everyone in the company and the industry," Sophie Newton, Group Marketing Manager.

For the full story go to: www.pestcontrolnews.com/news/



Mauro Brambillasca joins Bell as Regional Manager

Bell Laboratories is pleased to welcome Mauro Brambillasca to Bell Laboratories as the Central Europe and Middle Eastern Manager.

Mauro will provide strategic direction in increasing market share of Bell Laboratories' rodent control products in Central Europe and the Middle East. Working with Bell distributors, he will assess customer and market information in order to build strong customer and distributor relationships and enhance the market share of Bell products.

Brambillasca joins Bell with 10 years of experience in sales focusing mostly on automation engineering—3 years in retail channel and 7 years in business-to-business. Most recently, Mauro worked as an Export Manager at Frer, an electric and electronic measuring instrument manufacturer.

For the full story go to: www.pestcontrolnews.com/news/

Kicking up a stink:

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Is the brown marmorated stink bug our next invasive pest?





Stink Bug
Halyomorpha halys

H *alyomorpha halys*, known as the brown marmorated stink bug, seems to be the next most likely invasive insect pest to hit the UK, following hot on the ‘heels’ (tarsi?! *Tech Ed.*)

of the Asian tiger mosquito, Asian hornet and the harlequin ladybird. Perhaps it is here already, unreported or undetected!

Pest Control News examines the situation in Europe, to give readers an idea of what to expect from the ‘BMSM’.

Expect this: to be inundated with enormous numbers of this overwintering invasive pest!

News articles from 2014 had already highlighted the potential for this stink bug to reach the UK. Natural History Museum entomologist Max Barclay and Chris Malumphy (entomologist at Fera) both commented on the likelihood of populations establishing in South England, with emphasis on the agricultural pest status of this insect and the public nuisance effects.

However, it was only really until July 2017, when Marcus Schmidt (Urban Pest Advisory Service, Zurich) gave a paper at the 9th International Conference on Urban Pests, Birmingham UK, that interest in this species from a UK pest control industry viewpoint started to pick up. Marcus’ discussion of the public nuisance impacts of the invasive brown marmorated stink bug in Switzerland proved particularly intriguing.

Impacts in Europe

Marcus reported on the impacts of *H. halys*, which are considered a nuisance to people because of the aggregation clusters they form in buildings when seeking out hibernation sites during autumn.

From a public health pest control point of view this is their main impact, so think cluster flies and harlequin ladybirds.

Reports in Switzerland also include complaints of damage to garden fruits such as apricots, nectarines and cherries. There were also reports of damage to raspberries and blackberries grown in gardens. It is from here that they invade houses, sometimes in great numbers. One report referred to significant economic damage caused to a pepper culture of a vegetable producer in the Zurich region.

From a public health pest control standpoint *H. halys* is predominantly a nuisance pest, with bugs taking refuge in roller-shutter casings, behind panels with air space and under roofs. They are also found on walls, windows and door frames.

Much like other overwintering insect pests, they are not just a nuisance when finding overwintering sites in autumn months. They become active in their refuges during warm winter days and in spring (e.g. March onwards) when temperatures start to rise.

So, two peaks of nuisance activity can be expected. It is not just their presence that can be an irritating nuisance – the infamous ‘stink’ deserves a mention! If crushed or disturbed the bugs produce a typical strong odour that is both unpleasant and persistent.



Stink Bug Nymph
Halyomorpha halys

Allergic reactions to BMSB

Reports from the USA indicate that BMSB can produce allergic reactions (rhinitis and/or conjunctivitis) in individuals who are sensitive to the bugs' odour (the defensive chemicals can be an aeroallergen). Individuals sensitive to the odours of cockroaches and ladybirds may be particularly affected by BMSB. Additionally, if the insects are crushed or squashed against exposed skin, they can produce dermatitis at the point of contact.

Significant pest of plants

In the USA, *H. halys* causes over \$37 million of losses in apple production, where it has become a serious pest. Worldwide, it has over 300 reported host plants, causing feeding damage and spreading plant pathogens. It really is a plant pest of great significance in certain regions. Thankfully, *H. halys* is not likely to impact significantly on UK crops as our mercifully low summertime temperatures will restrict it to only a single generation per annum. Thinking about temperature, *H. halys* needs quite warm conditions to develop – over 14°C, which will restrict its distribution to suitable parts of the UK.

The route in

One suspicion is that *H. halys* made its way in via ornamental plants (Wermelinger, 2008). Marcus revealed (in his ICUP 2017 paper) personal communications with researcher Tim Haye that seem to give a realistic explanation of the invasion route of *H. halys*. 'Zurich is the partner city of Kunming, China, and in 1994 a Chinese garden was donated to Zurich by Kunming. In 1998, the roof tiles had to be replaced because they had cracked in the cold winter. The new tiles were imported to Zurich in large boxes directly from the imperial brickworks near Beijing. These boxes may have contained overwintering adults.' Intriguingly, a scientific paper published in August 2017, just after ICUP 2017, revealed genetic evidence of a Chinese origin of the brown marmorated stink bug in Switzerland (Valentin *et al.*, 2017), before spreading to neighbouring countries in Europe.

Where else is it found?

H. halys is native to Asia and is found in China, Japan, Korean Republic and Taiwan.

In Europe, it has been reported in the following countries: France (2012), Germany (2001), Greece (2011), Hungary (2013), Italy (2012), Lichtenstein (2004) and Switzerland (2004).

It is also present in the United States of America (1996) and the most recent new record is Chile (2017).

How close has it been to making it to the UK?

Very close in fact and it is likely here already and unreported / unrecognised. It has previously been found on timber imported from the USA that was destined for the UK but thankfully got intercepted. Other interceptions before reaching the UK were: in passenger luggage from the USA; stone imported from China and with clothes from the USA.

H. halys is capable of flight, meaning it can move from plant to plant within growing seasons, aiding its local dispersal. Over greater distances, it can be spread by movement of host plants as well as transport of other products or even vehicles. It can certainly get around.

Recognising the BMSB

Defra have produced a pest factsheet for the BMSB and their description of key characteristics for recognition is reproduced here.

'Adults are approximately 17 mm long and are generally brown in colour. Distinguishing characteristics found on adult H. halys include lighter bands on the antennae and darker bands on the membranous, overlapping part at the rear of the wings. They also have patches of coppery or bluish metallic-coloured punctures on the head and pronotum. The scent glands are located on the dorsal surface of the abdomen and the underside of the thorax. It is these glands that are responsible for producing the pungent odour that characterizes stink bugs.'

For interest, marmorated means 'having a marbled or streaked appearance'.

What to do if you find a BMSB?

Firstly, seek out a reliable identification from an experienced entomologist providing an insect identification service.

Secondly, if confirmed as a BMSB, report the finding to Plant Health authorities in the UK.

Although not a notifiable pest, reports of suspected outbreaks of brown marmorated stink bug would be appreciated by the relevant authority, to help monitor findings:

For England and Wales, contact your local APHA Plant Health and Seeds Inspector or the PHSI Headquarters, Sand Hutton, York. Tel: 01904 405138

Email: planthealth.info@apha.gsi.gov.uk

Control measures

Experience from providers of technical advice to the pest control industry in Europe is that vacuuming aggregations of BMSB, followed by disposal, can be successful and there is not always a need for chemical treatments. BMSB could be disposed of by freezing and then depositing in a secure outside bin. Proofing the cracks and crevices around doorways and windows with a silicone-based sealant (or equivalent) could assist in prevention.

If an insecticide treatment is deemed necessary, e.g. where there is immediate threat of food contamination, a product with the label phrase 'crawling insects' or similar should be selected as public health insecticides are not known to list bugs of the family pentatomidae / shield bugs on the label. Pyrethroid insecticides have been shown to be effective in controlling BMSB. With an eye on Integrated Pest Management, there is research into egg parasitoids, predatory insects and aggregation pheromones.

Remember, when you see a suspected brown marmorated stink bug, make sure you 'kick up a stink' and get it checked out.

BASIS PROMPT sets professional route for Irish pest control sector

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Ireland's pest control managers and technicians looking to meet new requirements from the EU to demonstrate professional competency to purchase anticoagulant rodenticides can tap into a wealth of services through BASIS PROMPT.

The PROMPT Professional Register has now been accepted by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) as a recognised means for managers and technicians to prove their trained professional competence as well as keep current and up to date following qualification.

This recognition now provides the Irish pest control industry with a clear route to meet the new requirements set out in rodenticide product labels under EU Biocidal Products Regulations.

Stephen Jacob, Chief Executive of BASIS PROMPT said: "From January this year, all pest controllers in Ireland must be registered with DAFM and have a valid Pest Management Trained Professional User (PMU) number.

"The Register of Pest Management Trained Professional Users is maintained by DAFM and a condition of registration is to be a member of a CPD scheme.

"DAFM already have a strong relationship with BASIS and have recognised BASIS PROMPT to be an appropriate scheme which meets their criteria.

"We are looking forward to providing a trusted, recognised route to support members in Ireland."

BASIS PROMPT has invested heavily in resources and technology to ensure a top-class service to its members.

Services include the allocation of a special identity card which acts as proof of a member's professional credentials and commitment to industry best practice.

Members can also access the mobile app at www.basis-app.co.uk which provides a useful log of their CPD tally which is updated regularly to provide information at a glance.

BASIS PROMPT is now being recommended by NPTA Ireland. Chris Izart, of Owl Pest Control in Dublin, is the NPTA Ireland representative. He said: "I am delighted by the announcement that BASIS PROMPT will be accepted as a suitable CPD scheme for Ireland.

"BASIS PROMPT offers a unique opportunity to earn CPD points from a multitude of sources such as formal training, NPTA training days, in-house training, technical journals, exhibitions and conferences.

"BASIS PROMPT also has the advantage of requiring its members to obtain points from a wide range of subject matters, and in particular pest biology, personal development, application practice, environmental awareness, pesticide technology, changes in legislation, as well as health and safety."

To find out more about BASIS PROMPT please visit www.basis-prompt.co.uk

PROMPT[®]
Register

Pest controllers updated about rodenticide resistance concerns

A new study by Reading University has identified “the massive extent of L120Q resistance across the whole of central southern England.” Co-author Dr Colin Prescott explains that L120Q is the most severe form of rodenticide resistance identified to date, effective against first generation anticoagulants and one or more second generation.

“Moreover, this doesn’t mean the rest of the UK can relax, because lack of sample availability means we just don’t have the data,” he says. “Another concern is that most rats with L120Q resistance carry the gene from both parents. Where this occurs, it suggests most or even all rats with some susceptibility have been eradicated by widespread use of resisted rodenticides, leaving a population of resistant pure-breds.”

The report was commissioned by the Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use (CRRU) under its stewardship regime remit to an HSE-led Government Oversight Group (GOG).

CRRU chairman Dr Alan Buckle says the difficulty for pest controllers, of course, is knowing the resistance status of rats on their customers’ premises.

“One effective course of action, but also involving extra work and cost, is to employ diagnostics,” he suggests. “Reading University, for example, offers paid-for resistance analysis of rat tissue samples, from which resistance status can be identified and control plans developed.

“This exemplifies how there is more to rodenticide stewardship than holding a certificate of competence. For stewardship to be judged a success by GOG, meaningful and lasting reductions in rodenticide residues carried by non-target wildlife are expected.”

Specifically and immediately, quoting advice from the UK Rodenticide Resistance Action Group, the report advises against using bromadiolone or difenacoum baits against rat populations known to carry the most severe forms of anticoagulant resistance.

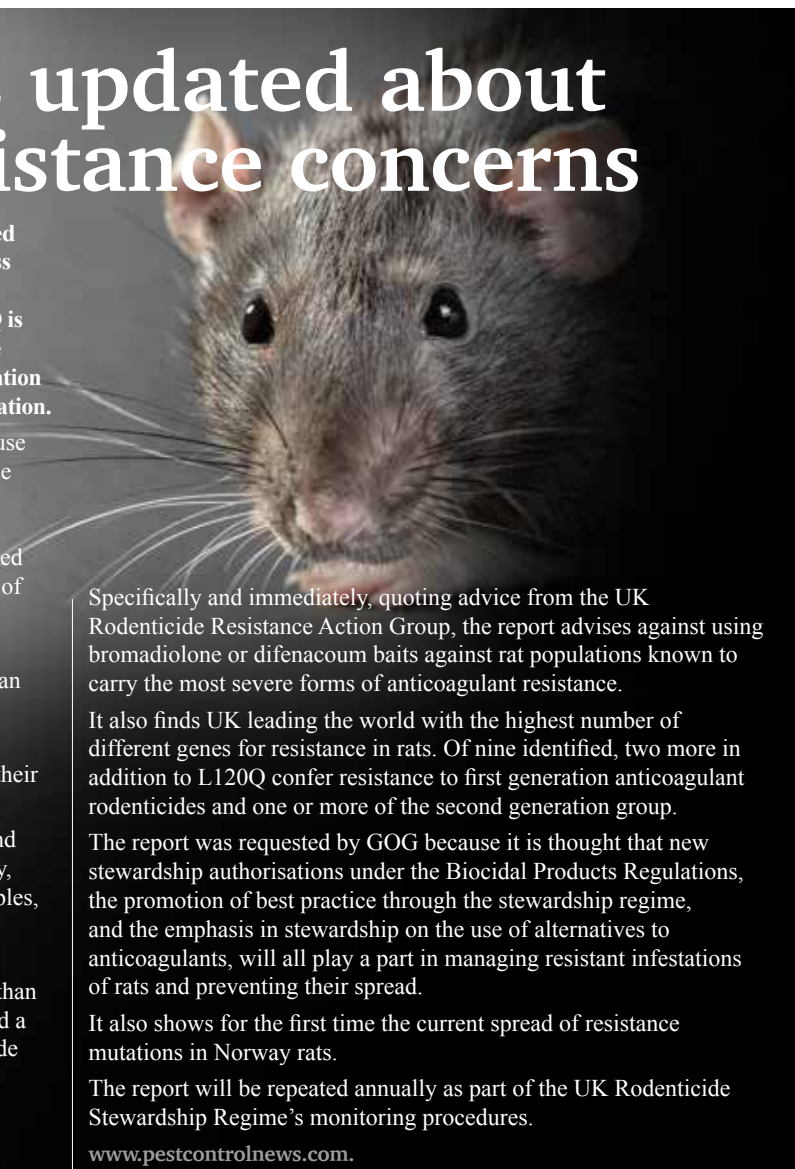
It also finds UK leading the world with the highest number of different genes for resistance in rats. Of nine identified, two more in addition to L120Q confer resistance to first generation anticoagulant rodenticides and one or more of the second generation group.

The report was requested by GOG because it is thought that new stewardship authorisations under the Biocidal Products Regulations, the promotion of best practice through the stewardship regime, and the emphasis in stewardship on the use of alternatives to anticoagulants, will all play a part in managing resistant infestations of rats and preventing their spread.

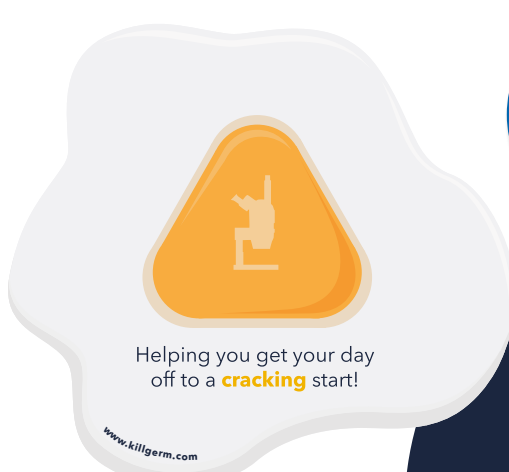
It also shows for the first time the current spread of resistance mutations in Norway rats.

The report will be repeated annually as part of the UK Rodenticide Stewardship Regime’s monitoring procedures.

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Nottingham – 4th OCT
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NORTHERN IRELAND
Belfast – 12th SEPT

SCOTTISH
Glasgow – 19th SEPT

WELSH
Cardiff – 22nd FEB

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A note on Bird licences for 2018



With another year gone so quickly, it is that time again to review the new General Licences and Class Licences for bird control. These have now been published for 2018 by the relevant regional agencies.

We should always take the time to remind ourselves of the facts before we engage in any bird control activities.

All relevant bird control General Licences for all UK countries, as well as the Republic of Ireland, have been reviewed for any changes in their text.

Apart from the dates (valid for the period 1st January 2018 to 31st December 2018 inclusive) there are no changes that have been made for England, Scotland and Wales.

Equally, no changes have been made for Northern Ireland or the Republic of Ireland. However, it is worth noting that for Northern Ireland the validity period is September 2017 to September 2018, so users will need to check the conditions of a new licence when one is issued.

For the Republic of Ireland, the validity period is May 2017 to end of April 2018, so again users will need to keep a check on this.

Remember to check the conditions of bird licences prior to carrying out bird management works.

Contact details

England: Natural England

www.gov.uk/government/collections/general-licences-for-wildlife-management

Relevant licences: WML- GL04, GL05, GL06, CL03 & CL12

Telephone 020 802 61089

Email wildlife@naturalengland.org.uk

Postal address Technical Services (Wildlife Licensing), Natural England, Horizon House, Deanery Road, Bristol, BS1 5AH

Scotland: Scottish Natural Heritage

www.snh.gov.uk/protecting-scotlands-nature/species-licensing/bird-licensing/general/

Relevant licences: GL01/2017, 02, 03 & 04

Wales: Natural Resources Wales

www.naturalresources.wales/apply-for-a-permit/protected-species-licensing/uk-protected-species-licensing/general-licences-2017-birds/?ang=en

Relevant licences: 001-2017, 002, 003 & 004, plus 016

Northern Ireland: Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs

www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/wildlife-licensing

Relevant licences: TPG/12016, TPG2 & TPG3

Republic of Ireland: National Parks & Wildlife Service

<https://www.npws.ie/legislation/irish-law/eu-birds-directive-derogations>

Finally, remember that these licences although easily downloadable, do not give us the right as pest controllers to cull / administer lethal control to a pest species without appropriate justification. The first thought that should come to mind before any lethal control action is considered should be, 'is there no other satisfactory alternative?'



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- ▶ Easy "no-touch" disposal

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David Cooper from J.D's Pest & Vermin Control, Staffordshire has been trapping moles, rats and rabbits for over 30 years in partnership with his wife, Jackie. PCN invited David to talk about his experiences, knowledge and share some interesting tales of catching moles. David talks about a customer who tried to flood his garden to get rid of the moles, fair to say he didn't see the funny side of it when Jackie retrieved a caught mole and commented that, "This one has got a snorkel and flippers on" ... Read on to find out more about David and Jackie's mole tales.



KEY!

How long have you worked in pest control?

I have been self-employed for 10 years in partnership with my wife Jackie who I taught to catch moles, but I have been trapping moles, rats and rabbits on farms for the past 30 years.

How did you get into mole trapping?

I was introduced to trapping by my father's friend, 'Dick Reed'. He was a great influence on me. He taught me to have the greatest respect for anything you were hunting/trapping as well as teaching me fieldcraft. I then started catching moles, rats and rabbits for pocket money from farmers.

What traps do you prefer to work with and why?

We only use two types, Talpex & Flat Pack tunnel traps. We have a lot of heavy ground around Staffordshire and this is where the Talpex excels. We then use the tunnels in stony ground.

After trying many different tunnels traps I found the Flat Pack a far superior trap than anything else on the market.

Do you wear gloves or not and do you think that affects your success?

I wear gloves occasionally but not all the time. I think it has no affect on catch rates whatsoever.

One thing I have noticed is that if you're trapping in one type of soil then move onto another job with a different soil type with dirty traps it can be problematic. So, we now wash them between jobs.

Do you like to weather your traps first?

No. We have literally had a delivery of Talpex in the morning and they've been in the ground the same afternoon and still caught that evening!

To be fair, I used to weather traps because I'd always been told you had to but I haven't for at least 10-12 years.

There's a lot of old school thinking where weathering traps is an absolute must and if you want to weather them fine, go for it, but it isn't essential.

What do you think about displaying mole carcasses?

I'm neither for or against it. Years ago I used to do it for the farmers but that's because the amount they'd pay me depended on how many they saw hanging, but since being self-employed we never charge by a body count. We give a price and that's it. So, it makes no difference if we catch five or 50 the price is the same which negates the need for such displays.

How often do you check traps?

We try to check daily, especially on farms and estates. We rarely put less than 50 traps down and we can check two to three times a day in these circumstances. Sometimes it can be every other day for domestic garden jobs.

Tell us about your toughest mole job?

We had a particularly difficult garden one about four years ago where the garden was surrounded by stone walls and copses. The soil was very stony and my traps were filled more than once.

The toughest farm job we did was one within the first 18 months of setting up. The land ran alongside a railway with very peaty soil where the average trap depth was 18" deep. We caught 143 moles off it. They seemed to never end and we lost a lot of money on that one. It was a very steep learning curve.

Do you have any funny stories or 'mishaps' to tell?

We once went to a large garden where the customer was at his wits end with his very well-manicured lawns. He got so frustrated that he put a hosepipe into the highest tunnel he could find and turned it on. He left the water running all weekend. By the time we got there it was like a quagmire.

We set some traps and when we went back the following day he was very eager to see if we'd caught the bane of his life. Jackie was lifting a Talpex trap that had gone off, and while taking a large mole from the jaws of the trap turned to him saying, "This one has got a snorkel and flippers on," he wasn't amused.

What would be your advice for new starters?

Seek out a genuine trapper who walks the walk and who is the real deal. There are various organisations for mole catchers throughout the country. We're not a member of any, as we personally don't find them to be of any benefit. Moles pay my mortgage so we can't be too bad at it...

I was fortunate to have good mates who were already self-employed pesties that I could turn to for advice. It's one thing trapping for fun. It's very different to trap for a living when no other income is coming into the house.

I had a few days over North Wales with Phil Morris and a few days down Hampshire with Phil Lloyd, these guys help polish up my techniques, but most importantly gave me moral support to go for it with my business.

What training do you recommend for mole control?

There's a lot of folk who as I say talk good trapping, but I've listened to many and found them wanting. For many it's easy for them to give advice saying, "Do this and that" but you'd be very lucky to get 40 traps in a day if you followed their instructions, which isn't much use if you're on an estate where you need to get plenty of traps in the ground to make a profit.

Do you have any tips or tricks of your own for successful mole trapping?

Throw away your trowel if you use one and get a decent spade, you'll save a lot of backache! Plus, if you're digging a foot down in heavy soil you'll not get many traps in with a trowel.

Don't worry about if you open the tunnel it's larger than your trap you can make it good my 'building it back up' it's not difficult and the mole doesn't notice. They're used to their tunnels being made a mess of by cattle, horses and farm machinery etc.

Believe in yourself, ask if you're not sure and experiment where you place your traps. It's how you'll learn what works and what doesn't and before you know it you'll pick up another sense. In time you'll instinctively know where to place a trap. You won't always get it right but nobody ever does when you're working with Mother Nature.

Be lucky and good trapping.

Thank you to David Cooper for taking the time to talk to us.

Solar panel bird proofing installations

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In recent years, it has become apparent that the proofing of solar arrays, mainly on domestic roofs, has provided a growing market for many bird proofing installers.

The choice of systems now available has also increased as the opportunities have grown. As with any work, and especially regarding bird proofing installations, the safety of all who are involved in our industry must be of paramount importance.

We do not go to work to receive a severe injury for the sake of proofing out a few pigeons under a solar array, so consider safety at every step.

Whenever we are called upon to carry out such works it will involve working at heights. This kind of work needs careful thought to be applied as to the type of access that will be required to carry out the works in a safe and effective manner. This means identifying the hazards and assessing the risks associated with the work method then introducing appropriate risk control measures.

When installing bird proofing measures, a suitable means of safe access will be required. Ladders are not suitable as a point of access to the pitch of a roof. In preference to ladders - use a tied independent scaffold with a working platform at gutter height. Access to the ridge may be gained by using ridge ladders or special solar array ladders that can be manoeuvred above a solar system.

Just recently Pest Control News was contacted by Werner Starbuck of Pestforce Cardiff & South Wales who reported receiving an electric shock whilst attaching mesh to the side of a solar array system. The weather conditions at the time were not good and having recently rained the air was damp. Although a serious shock was not received Werner was keen to find out if this was common in our industry.

Pest Control News has taken further advice from both within our own industry and from the solar industry and can confirm that this is a common issue that we should all be aware of when working on solar array systems. Solar arrays may be switched off from within the property. However, this can still leave residual current within the system which can remain a problem.

The advice is to wear Electrical Safety Gloves which are available from your local safety provider. Choose type O electrician gloves which will protect up to a maximum of 1,000- volt electricity and be the most suitable for your needs.

As said at the start, safety must be paramount and whilst the electric shock received may not be enough to kill you, the sudden jolt could move you off-balance to an unplanned end.



Throwing Pest Technicians A Rope

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PCN interviews Chris Mckeown, Managing Director of OpKill and OpSolar, about the decision to offer an extended service opportunity for pest controllers, with prospect for profit reaching new heights in pest control.

When did you start your company in pest control?

I started OpKill in October 2013. This was after spending 12 years as a senior surveyor with a major national company.

When and why did you decide to venture in to solar panel maintenance & installation?

Our sister company in 2013 was a major provider of PV Installations. Due to the nature of enquiries the business was receiving, and the experience and knowledge within our management team and sister company, it was a natural decision to consider supporting our customers with all their requirements. Our aim is to be the whole solution to our customers' problems.

It was quite simple to take the pest control nature of the work, prevention and proofing, and incorporate the solar panel maintenance together.

During the delivery of the scope of works we were finding further issues with roof tiles, we now employ roofers, and solar panel maintenance issues, that we initially sourced back to our sister company.

Eventually, via a management buyout, we started OpSolar, a specialist solar panel maintenance, cleaning and proofing company.

As OpSolar, we can offer our customers a full-service option, without the need for them to waste time searching around for many different solutions.

What equipment do you prefer to use when dealing with heights?

Our preferred choice is rope access.

We have a fully trained Specialist Rope Access Team (SRAT) of roof technicians able to work on most roof types, and the rope access provides us with greater flexibility and time efficiency.

More importantly for our customers, we can keep our costs lower using ropes rather than using scaffolding and/or motorised access equipment.

What are the most crucial factors to consider when dealing with solar panel maintenance?

There are several crucial factors to consider.

Firstly, the safety of our staff. That has been our priority from the offset and is why our employees undergo rigorous training.

Secondly, does the customer own the panels? Do they have permission to have the work undertaken?

If not, we must consider the type of clips we use to fasten the mesh to the solar panels to not void any warranty.

We have also found many incomplete solar panel installations, possibly installed by none reputable companies, resulting in panels holding excess charge. As a dedicated solar panel maintenance company, we are now able to correct these faults before commencing work.

The type of fixing is a very important factor. This can hinder the removal of panels from the rails to access the nesting material, that is tangled in and around the PV cable connectors. Therefore, correct removal and tooling is essential.

What training do your employees undertake to maintain & install solar panels?

All our installers are accredited to MCS accreditation standards. This will include the relevant BPEC Solar PV qualification and NICEIC H&S qualification.

Tell us about your most complex maintenance or installation job?

We were requested by the fire service, in the South of England, to look at a job that involved multiple challenges.

They had birds roosting and breeding on top of a training tower that was also utilised by telecommunication companies for mobile aerials.

Telecommunication engineers were unable to gain safe access to the aerials due to obstacles in the way.

The condition on top of the tower was revolting. Approximately 70 - 100 pigeons had been living there for many years. The pigeon waste, which included bird carcasses, was approximately 12 inches deep. As well as the waste, this had become a breeding ground for several insect species.

There had been bird netting at some point but had long since been damaged.

Our task was to clean and proof the roof. In addition, we also had to proof around the array of 16 solar panels on the adjacent roof and carry out the relevant servicing.

This was challenging due to factors of bird waste, bird numbers, risk of contamination, height, weather conditions and that the birds had dislodged several cables, including earth cables that were causing mild electric currents through the array panels.



Due to the location of the building, it was not possible to use mobile access platforms.

At a height of eight stories high, our specialist rope access team had to climb the vertical ladders inside the tower, as there was no other way to gain access to the roof, before setting up the ropes to complete the work.

Bird netting was installed in one corner of the roof before wiring and cleaning maintenance of the array started. Once the array had been serviced, work was carried out to install the wire proofing. During this process pigeons still attempted to land on the roof while many just watched from the trees in the distance.

Finally, after overcoming many challenges, all scope of works was completed to a very satisfactory standard.

What do you receive the most enquiries about?

Most enquiries are regarding the roosting of pigeons under solar panels and the dislodging of wiring underneath the panels caused by bird movements. To the customer, this is reducing the efficiency of the panels and the financial tariff they will receive.

What is the referral service that you offer to other pest controllers?

We understand that all professional pest control companies do not want to disappoint their customers and that they want to offer their customers a complete service.

This may be a service that they are not able to fulfil themselves for many reasons such as, qualifications, fear of heights, set up costs, logistics etc.

We welcome the chance to build working relationships with these businesses and work on their behalf, for solar panel work, in exchange for a referral fee. We will contact the customer on their behalf, complete all surveys, quotations and payment collection, providing full transparency service.

We ask that they contact our contact centre on 0800 980 41 42 to discuss any potential work load they have.

The Urban FOX

Vulpes vulpes



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As UK government websites have been re-organised, many useful Natural England advice leaflets have been withdrawn or archived, presumably with no plans to be updated any time soon. Going by their formal title of 'Natural England Technical Information Notes', these advisory notes contain practical and sensible advice. In this edition of 'know your enemy, Pest Control News consults their collection of these notes, to share information about the significance of urban foxes and how fox problems may be dealt with.

The adaptable nature of the red fox *Vulpes vulpes* has made it a very successful resident of many British towns. Although many people enjoy seeing foxes around their homes or in parkland, foxes can be a nuisance and sometimes cause damage. Foxes are not a protected species as such, but they are protected against abuse and ill-treatment.

Biology and behaviour

Foxes eat a wide range of foodstuffs. Their diet includes small mammals, birds (including eggs), reptiles, insects, earthworms, fruit, vegetables and carrion. In urban areas, about a third of their diet is scavenged waste or food deliberately provided by householders.

Urban fox

Foxes usually shelter and breed below ground in an 'earth' or 'den'. They prefer well-drained soil and sometimes use burrows made by rabbits or badgers. In urban areas, they also live underneath sheds and outbuildings, even under the floorboards of houses.

Problems with urban foxes

Domestic animals

Given the opportunity, foxes will kill small domestic pets and livestock such as rabbits, guinea pigs, ducks and chickens. Unlike many predators, foxes have the habit of killing more than they need to eat immediately. They may subsequently return for any uneaten corpses. Foxes are unlikely to be a danger to adult cats or dogs, although there are occasional reports of foxes fighting with a cat or small dog.

Nuisance

The digging, defecating, and bin-raiding habits of foxes can cause considerable nuisance and disturbance in urban areas. Gardens can be spoiled as foxes establish an earth, dig for invertebrates, bury food, or help themselves to fruit and vegetables. Complaints of 'unearthly screams' at night are also common during the mating season between December and February.

Spread of disease

Foxes can carry a range of parasites and diseases relevant to the health of domestic pets and people. Despite this, there is scant evidence that foxes are an important source of infection.

Foxes are susceptible to Weil's disease (Leptospirosis), which can be passed on to other animals and humans through contact with their urine.

Prevention of problems

Unfortunately, there is no simple solution to the problems that foxes cause. The most effective deterrent is a suitable perimeter fence, but fox-proof fences can be expensive to install and unsightly. There are however, many alternative measures that will minimise, if not eliminate, fox problems.

“Foxes can carry a range of parasites and diseases relevant to the health of domestic pets and people. Despite this, there is scant evidence that foxes are an important source of infection.”

Do not feed foxes, either intentionally or unintentionally. Ensure that foxes cannot access food put out for other wildlife or pets. Make bird tables inaccessible for foxes to climb onto, for example, by erecting a covered table at a height of at least 1.5 m (5 ft). Always clear away spilt food from under any bird feeder. Store rubbish, especially food waste (including composted waste) in fox-proof containers made of materials such as metal or plastic. Ensure that dustbin lids are secure, e.g. by having a clip-on lid or expanding ‘bungie’ straps which secure the lid, and avoid leaving rubbish sacks unprotected. Clear away wind-fallen fruit.

Damage to lawns is sometimes caused by foxes attracted by the presence of invertebrate turf pests such as leatherjackets and chafers. Removal of these pests using a pesticide approved for the purpose or a biological control product (e.g. nematode worms) may alleviate the problem.

Provide secure, fox-proof accommodation for vulnerable pets and livestock, especially at night. Foxes can bite through ordinary chicken wire; welded mesh provides a much stronger alternative.

Fences

Foxes can be excluded from areas such as gardens by wire mesh or electric fences, but as previously mentioned, a fox-proof fence can be expensive to install and unsightly. Additionally, electrified fences may not be suitable if you have children or pets.

A suitable mesh fence needs to be at least 2 m (6 ft 6 in) high, buried to a depth of at least 45 cm (1 ft 6 in) and with a sheet of smooth material at the top of at least 30 cm (1 ft) depth. The addition of an electric wire will improve the security of this fence.

Methods of fox control

Legal methods

There are many methods of fox control that may legally be used. These include baited cage trapping, shooting and snaring. Fallen livestock, including dead poultry, should not be used as bait in cage traps due to the potential risk of spreading disease.

Fox control in urban areas

Fox control is not generally recommended in urban areas. Killing or relocating foxes usually provides only transient relief from the problems foxes cause, as vacant territories are rapidly reoccupied once the control measures cease. This is particularly true in urban areas where fox densities are high.

The capture of urban foxes and their release into rural areas is not recommended on welfare grounds and this practice could be an offence under the Animal Welfare Act (2006).

In addition, shooting and snaring are unlikely to be appropriate methods of control in urban situations for reasons of safety, and in the case of shooting, public disturbance. The relocation of foxes is also not recommended mainly due to their territorial nature.

For further information on urban fox control visit www.urbanpestsbook.com/downloads.php



The hairy-footed flower bee



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It might only be February but the hairy-footed flower bee could already be flying, being one of the earliest solitary bees in the UK. As well as being one of the earliest solitary bees and a ‘friend’ / non-target species, it can be found in areas where you might not expect it such as rabbit burrows. Yes, that’s right, the next time you are undertaking rabbit control, have a look around and see if you can spot bee ‘burrows’ at the same time...a burrow within a burrow.

Of course, we wouldn’t be mentioning the hairy-footed flower bee if there wasn’t occasionally conflict with humans and their activities and therefore some relevance to pest control. To give it its full name, *Anthophora plumipes* can be found nesting in chimneys from where females can enter living spaces and cause a nuisance. Commonly found in gardens, parks, churchyards, roadside verges and other urban areas, it is also reported nesting in the soft mortar of walls and in the ground. It can even be found nesting in the vertical faces of quarries and sometimes cliffs. Although a solitary bee, numbers can be in their hundreds in the same place.

Damage

They attack weak or damaged mortar joints between bricks or other types of building material that have for some reason weathered or deteriorated.

The areas normally attacked are on elevations that have the heat of the sun for the greater part of the day. The damage is caused by the female boring into the material to form a system of galleries or tunnels in which to house the pupal cells of the next generation. This takes place in the early spring and all activities are completed by early summer.

Over many years damage can become severe if no action is taken. The only long-term solution to the problem is to repoint the area concerned or in the case of defective stonework dress or replace it.

Although these bees possess a sting they are unlikely to use them against humans.

Recognition

Their large size (forewing length of 10 – 11mm) early appearance (February onwards) and rapid flight action are a good start. Typical females are black with an orange pollen brush on the hind tarsi (hence the name ‘hairy-footed!’). The males are mostly buff-haired with a fringe of long hairs from their mid-‘legs’ (yes, hairy-footed!), and a mainly yellow face.

Control

Absolutely no control measures are necessary due to the completely minimal risk of being stung.



Destruction is totally unnecessary especially as hairy-footed flower bees are important pollinators (the clue is in the name!). These bees are described as safe with children and with pets, which is all we need to know really. Even if someone wanted to apply pesticides, they would be restricted by the product label as public health insecticides cannot be applied directly to lawns, soil, banks, cliffs etc.

Where to go for further information

Much of the information in this article is based on the BWARS website and their information sheet on *Anthophora plumipes* is available here http://www.bwars.com/sites/www.bwars.com/files/info_sheets/05_Anthophora_plumipes_1col_infosheet.pdf



Dr Kai Sievert

Talon Track...

...passes the paste taste test



Technical

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Results of new rodent control trials have demonstrated the success of an integrated approach utilising monitoring paste to identify pest activity, then transitioning to an active bait to achieve quick and effective control, reports Syngenta Technical Manager for Europe, Kai Sievert.

Speaking at PestTech 2017 in Coventry earlier this month, Dr Sievert reported the recent trials demonstrated the combined use of Talon®Track with Talon®Soft allows a great continuity when transitioning within the various phases of the track, treat and monitor integrated approach.

Dr Sievert has completed a series of palatability and bait consumption trials for mice and brown rats in Germany. His research was using the non-active monitoring paste, Talon Track, along with Talon Soft - the active formulation with precisely the same bait matrix.

“Using Talon Track during the monitoring phase allowed the quick identification of the sites with rodent activity,” he said. “That enabled the effective continuity of consumption on a switch to the toxic bait, where it would be quickly taken.”

“The habit of rodents is known to be highly selective of food sources making palatability crucial to ensure they consume sufficient bait,” added Dr Sievert.

He pointed out that this strategy was essential for better targeting of bait use within a control zone, as well as minimising exposure in the wider environment.

One brown rat trial in Dresden, for example, demonstrated the attractiveness of the Talon Track pre-baiting – quickly seeing the consumption of bait rising, to average 57.5 g/day across the trial area in the nine days before a switch to Talon Soft. When the active bait was exchanged, consumption of 88 grams on Day 1 was exactly the same as the previous day’s Talon Track.

Consumption of Talon Soft then declined day on day as control occurred, falling to 19 grams by Day 4 and ceasing altogether by Day 10 – indicating complete control.

A second trial, in Kaiserslauten, showed very similar results, with 67 g/day of Talon Track consumed in the five days prior to Talon Soft introduction, followed by 72 g/day on the first day of active bait use and rapidly falling to just 12 g/day within five days as the rodent population was brought under control.



Furthermore, the Talon Track trials for mice have identified that whilst some bait stations were consistently visited and consumed, other bait stations within the same vicinity, even just centimeters away, were left untouched. “This reinforced the need for multiple bait station placements when tracking and treating mice.

“Operators may be rightly concerned about putting down too many bait stations containing active bait – from both a cost and exposure viewpoint,” he advised. “But when using an inert tracking paste there are no such issues.”

Additionally, the trial demonstrated the Talon Track monitoring paste in one bait station location that was not touched in the initial stages, was consumed completely in the ninth week. “That highlighted the movement of mice within a control zone as they search out new food sources and nesting sites,” he said. “It also demonstrated the importance of a long shelf life for the tracking paste where it can be left in situ for a longer period and still remain palatable to foraging mice.”

“When the monitoring paste was exchanged for the active Talon Soft, bait consumption followed the same pattern,” reported Dr Sievert.

“That indicated mice determined no difference between the Talon Track and active rodenticide - ensuring rapid and complete bait consumption to achieve quick control,” he added.

Talon Soft contains a highly palatable formulation of brodifacoum, typically requiring just 0.2g of bait to deliver a lethal dose for a mouse - equivalent to just 5% of its daily food intake.

Talon Track, introduced earlier this year, has exactly the same bait matrix as Talon Soft, but without the active ingredient. For monitoring there is no risk from its use and, when it is exchanged for the active Talon Soft, there is a faster acceptance of the toxic bait and thus faster control.

The Talon Track is also extremely stable to adverse conditions and remains palatable for weeks, making it ideal as an ongoing monitoring tool and a key part of a successful rodent control program.

The return of liquid baits for rodent control

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Experienced pest controllers have lamented the loss of anticoagulant rodenticide liquid baits in recent years. Losing an effective alternative for rodent control was a blow indeed, with control options reduced, especially in dry conditions where alternative edible food sources are in abundance – think grain stores, seed stores and flour mills as examples.

The big news is this, that anticoagulant liquid baits for rodent control have returned. This is certainly some very good news for rodent control! Things have been looking up recently; use of single-feed anticoagulant active ingredients expanded to ‘in and around buildings’, the progress made by the UK rodenticide stewardship regime, an invaluable contact foam available, palatable coumatetralyl bait on the market and now liquid baits making a return.

The ready-to-use anticoagulant liquid baits are available in ‘drinkers’, particularly useful for Norway rat and house mouse control in dry conditions. The area of use is ‘in and around buildings’ and the drinkers must be situated in tamper-resistant bait stations.

OK, so keen-eyed readers will note the phrase ‘ready-to-use’ which means we won’t see the past option of mixing liquid bait with alternative bait bases. However, having a drinkable liquid bait based on the anticoagulant difenacoum at 0.005% is good news enough.

As with any control measure, the link to pest biology and behaviour is key. Liquid baits can be particularly attractive to and effective against Norway rats *Rattus norvegicus*. This is because *R. norvegicus* must drink free water daily unless their food source is *extremely* moist.

The house mouse *Mus domesticus* can survive without drinking free water but requires food with a moisture content of approximately 15 – 16% to do so. House mice utilise metabolic water more efficiently than Norway rats but will still drink if water is available, hence the benefits of using liquid baits.

It’s finally time to quench the thirst of Norway rats and house mice!



Reaches parts other baits can't!

Selfish Pests! Unselfish Partners!

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B iologically, altruism is defined as an individual acting in a way that reduces self-fitness while increasing the fitness of another individual or group. Even though rats are selfish pests, through empathy or “emotional contagion” rats are unselfish partners.

Humans generally take care of one another, but not many other animal species do. Outside of offspring, most animals are competitive with one another. With many animals, sharing is not caring! Certain animals living in more complex social organizations can be altruistic.

For example, even complex societies of insects are altruistic. Termite and Honey bee societies are made of sterile drones. These cannot reproduce, and are limited to foraging and building nests. Worker insects generally exist only to serve.

Pursuant to evolution and survival of the fittest, altruism is the opposite of what we normally think about. The concept of all life is in a competition to survive and reproduce (natural selection) was discovered by Charles Darwin. Surviving individuals that pass on their genes are more fit than those that do not. Altruism goes against this concept.

Within some species, certain individuals will sacrifice themselves for the good of the group. They take a hit for the team. Regarding natural selection, this makes no sense. If an altruistic organism sacrifices itself for a group, how will its genes be passed on to populate future altruistic individuals?

Altruism is not about survival of the individual, rather survival of the entire group. Altruism increases fitness of the entire group. A theory known as kin selection suggests that an altruistic individual shares genes with his and her kin. If the individual dies from selflessly taking care of the group, the individual’s genes would still be passed on to the next generation (propagating the behavior).

An alternative theory to kin selection is group selection. Within group selection the same principle applies, or an individual sacrifices itself for the survival of the group.

Contrastingly, within this theory, altruistic behavior occurs even when individuals are not closely related. Altruism is observed within complex societies where numerous individuals live together, so even when individuals may not share the same genes it makes sense that sacrificing the fitness of one individual could benefit the group.

Within altruistic societies, individuals have recognized that working together provides advantage to working alone. In the end, each individual sacrificing some leads to a greater pay off for everyone.

Investigators at the University of Chicago conducted research to determine if individual rats, through empathy or emotional contagion, act in a way that reduces their self-fitness while increasing the fitness of other individuals (capable of behavior intended to benefit another individual or altruism).

Research was conducted to conclude whether or not the presence of a trapped cage-mate would evoke a desire to assist another rat. Would a “free” rat open the restrainer door and set a cage-mate free? A definite yes as a free rat learned to open the door, and both rats moved excitedly around the enclosure. Investigators made certain that free rats were not allowing trapped rats out for only companionship.

In another experiment rats could set one another free, but individuals remained separated afterwards. Free rats continued to assist trapped cage-mates. Additionally, rats were as prone to free cage-mates as they were to open a restrainer that contained chocolate chips. Greater than 50% of the time, rats shared the chocolate, even though they could have first eaten the chocolate.

Interestingly, compared to male rats, female rats were more prone to become door openers and learned faster to do so. This suggests that females are more empathic than males.

Investigators produced an interesting video. Watch and learn about selfish pests that are unselfish partners!

Video: American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)

By Dr. Stuart Mitchell



Science-sense

Ebola, flies, birds, rats and resistance to antibiotics

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In a series of new ‘science sense’ articles PCN examines the latest research in the scientific literature and provides a common-sense summary to readers. The aim is for key scientific findings to be communicated exactly where it matters – to pest management professionals. Too often the bridge between researchers and practitioners isn’t made, but not anymore...

We have an eclectic mixture of recent research concerning the role of houseflies in the spread of Ebola virus, carriage of antibiotic resistant bacteria by birds and flies on pig farms, with rats providing a surprise at the end.

We’re not saying that you will catch Ebola virus the next time a fly whizzes past *but* do watch out for other nasty microbiological pest-related surprises!

Ebola virus

Ebola is transmitted from human to human by contact with infectious bodily fluids, getting in via mucosal membranes (eyes, nose, mouth etc.). Concerns about fly transmission of Ebola were raised at the height of the West African outbreak for many reasons; large numbers of infections, funeral practices, unclean conditions and limited pest control.

The role of houseflies *Musca domestica* in the transmission of Ebola via contact with faces had not been established until a May 2017 study by Haddow *et al.* The researchers first made a mixture of Ebola virus and blood. They then allowed houseflies to walk in this mixture and then to contact the eyes, nose and mouth of animal test subjects. The test subjects were observed and monitored for over 50 days and showed no sign of infection.

The researchers concluded that although the conditions in their study did not result in infection with Ebola, the possibility of transmission of the virus could not be ruled out, indicating potential (albeit low) for houseflies to transmit Ebola mechanically.

One observation indicated clearly the potential for transmission – houseflies carrying the blood/Ebola mixture were seen to feed on mucosal secretions (around the eyes, nose and mouth) of the test subjects, which is about as close as something can get to transmission. Furthermore, repeated Ebola virus and fly exposures ‘in the field’ may feasibly reach the threshold that has been shown to result in mucosal transmission. Therefore, those working in areas of high housefly activity and potentially infectious people, contaminated body fluids, waste and cadavers need to use suitable personal protective equipment. Don’t underestimate the importance of fly management either.

OK, so Ebola virus isn’t exactly on our doorstep in the UK but it really does make you think about the humble and underrated housefly. When a housefly last landed on your plate of food or even on your face, did you waft it away and keep on eating? Would you have done the same if a cockroach walked across your plate? Does your client understand the importance of fly control in protecting public health?

Flies and birds carrying MRSA on pig farms

Many of us in the pest control industry are called to work on pig farms, dealing with rodent problems, fly management and even bird control from time to time.

The threat to human health from rodent urine containing *Leptospira* bacteria, the causative agent of Weil’s disease, is well documented in rural situations. Let’s hope we all take the necessary precautions to keep ourselves safe from Weil’s disease (do you?).

For added inspiration to look after your own health, plus to continue plugging away with pest control, think about the fact that recent research shows birds and flies carrying the ‘superbug’ MRSA and antibiotic-resistant *E. coli* on farms (Smith *et al.*, 2017).

In the research, (presented at the 9th International Conference on Urban Pests, Birmingham UK, July 2017) pest samples were collected on and around Utrecht University during May, June and July, including the university pig farm.



Flypapers were used to capture flies and small birds were collected when found dead. The pooled fly samples that were positive for antibiotic-resistant *E. coli* (Extended-spectrum beta-lactamase (ESBL) to be exact – rendering common antibiotics like penicillin ineffective) and ‘superbug’ MRSA included houseflies, lesser houseflies and drain flies. The bird samples examined were mainly sparrows and starlings.

Anyone would think working in pest control is a death-trap! If Ebola doesn’t get you, MRSA, *E. coli*, Salmonella, Weil’s disease, hantavirus, plague and more will finish you off. While most of us have survived over the years in this industry, perhaps more by luck than judgement, it does make you think...

In conclusion, rather than a message of ‘be afraid’, it is more a case of ‘be aware, be educated and use this information to inform your clients regarding the importance of public health pest control’.

Rats and ‘superbugs’ on farms

You thought rats were getting away with it, not so! A Canadian study, published as recently as January 2018 by Rothenburger *et al.*, reported the isolation of the ‘superbug’ MRSA *as well as* another infamous ‘superbug’ *Clostridium difficile* from rats on pig farms.

Remember that transfer of *Clostridium difficile* by houseflies has been reported previously in PCN. Now rats are on the agenda with ‘*C. diff.*’. The type of *C. difficile* isolated from a rat on the pig farm is one associated with infection in calves and humans as well as piglets. Going back to MRSA the isolated strain is one that often colonises pigs and pig farmers. It is becoming clearer and clearer that rodent control on farms is an essential component of infection control relevant to both livestock and humans, thus protecting public and animal health, something that the regulatory authorities would do well not to lose sight of...

SAKARAT® D LIQUID BAIT

Sakarar D Liquid Bait is the only liquid rodenticide bait formulation for use by professional pest control in Europe. Exclusively available from Killgerm in the UK.

Unlike previous liquid baits which were available in the past, Sakarar D Liquid Bait is a completely new formulation which is ready to use, saving you significantly more time and reducing the risk of spillages.

Sakarar D Liquid Bait contains water, the active substance difenacoum 0.005%, as well as many additives which make it extra attractive to rodents. As a result, the rodents then drink an appropriate quantity of the bait, which means they consume a lethal level of the active substance over a short period.

As part of the authorisation process, steps have been taken to ensure that Sakarar D Liquid Bait risks are mitigated sufficiently when used according to label directions. The bait is supplied in a patented and specially designed bottle with a child resistant cap. It is sealed with a safety membrane that only breaks when the unique roller dispenser is attached to the bottle. Once the bottle and dispenser has been assembled, it must be secured properly into a tamper resistant bait box. It is also designed to minimise spillage.

www.killgerm.com



Reaches parts other baits can't!

DEADLINE® FLUORESCENT TRACKING GEL

Deadline Fluorescent Tracking Gel for rats and mice.

The gel can be used on horizontal and vertical surfaces. To aid visibility, use a UV torch to highlight track marks.

www.rentokil.co.uk



TALON TRACK

A highly palatable bait for rodent monitoring. Supplied in a 300g use with a caulking gun. Talon Track is a non-tox monitoring of Talon Soft, and can be easily replaced by Talon Soft after signs of rodent activity.

www.syngenta.com



HIRENIS BISCUIT BEETLE LURE

A biscuit beetle (*Stegobium paniceum*) pheromone lure to aid detection and monitoring of this important stored product insect. The tablet needs to be placed onto a sticky pad and used with either the AF Insect Monitor or AF Demi Diamond. It is recommended that the tablet and glue pads are replaced every 6 weeks.



PCN

ROMAX CUBE

The Romax Cube is the battery or mains powered communications hub of the Romax system.

It uses a cross network SIM and the 2G cellular network, which means it works in the most remote locations.

The Romax Cube includes:

- PIR Motion Sensor
- Bluetooth 'Shock or Movement' Sensor

- Temperature Sensor
- GPS tracking
- Camera
- The ultimate companion for your smartphone that keeps an eye on the things you can't. Whether that is simply for peace of mind or for monitoring and security applications.

www.barrettineenv.co.uk



LED HAND LENS



The Killgerm LED Hand Lens is a small compact twin magnification hand lens offering 30x and 60x magnification. The two LED's make it ideal for use in areas of low ambient light where on the spot insect id may be required. This compact lightweight lens can be attached to a keychain or lanyard and comes supplied with a hard-shell carry case.

www.killgerm.com

RICE WEEVIL TRAP



The Xlure RWT trap has been specially developed to offer an effective means of monitoring areas at risk of Rice Weevil, to reduce the potential for infestations and the costly outcome of dealing with the damage. Simply insert the cartridge containing the attractant into the red cover and the trap is ready to go. The discreet and consistent performance provides an opportunity for early detection and more timely control.

www.russellipm-storedproductsinsects.com

New Products

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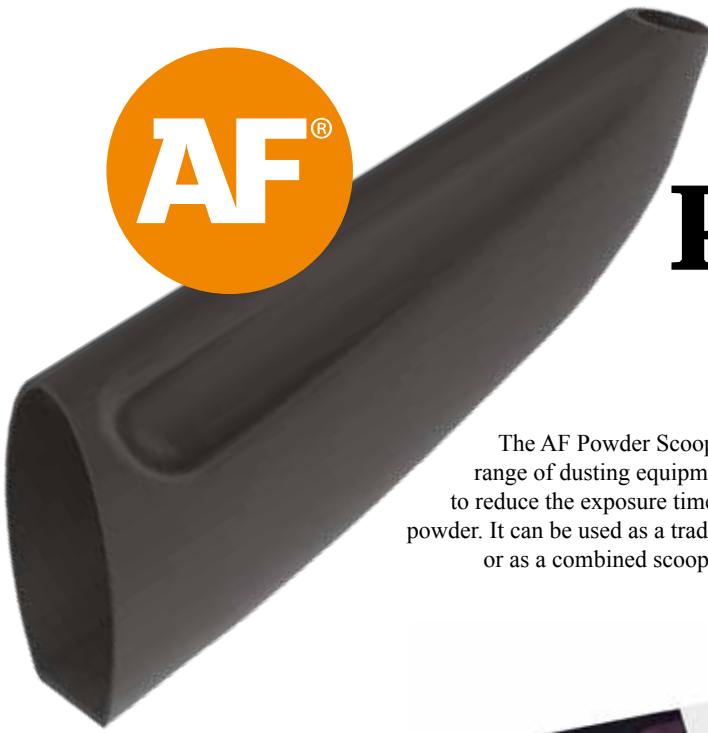
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New Products

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www.pestcontrolnews.com



AF[®] POWDER SCOOP

The AF Powder Scoop has been designed to allow the easy filling of a wide range of dusting equipment. This useful tool, made from polypropylene, helps to reduce the exposure time to insecticidal powders and reduces waste from spilt powder. It can be used as a traditional scoop for larger dusting application equipment or as a combined scoop/funnel for use with smaller powder application tools.

www.killgerm.com

IT'S IN THEIR DNA

Earlier this month Killgerm Chemicals launched their 2018 Catalogue. Their theme for the year is 'Pest control, it's in our DNA' and the cover has a vibrant double helix created from pests. The 2018 catalogue is jampacked with some of the latest products for the pest control industry.

Request a copy online today.

www.killgerm.com/resources/catalogue-request



Reminder to use-up rodenticides not labelled as 'toxic to reproduction' by the end of August 2018

Please note that anticoagulant rodenticides are being reclassified as 'toxic to reproduction' if the concentration of active substance is at or above 0.003%. Manufacturers have been working to re-label such products in line with the reclassification by 1st March 2018. Regarding relevant rodenticides stored by users that haven't been re-labelled, a 180-day use-up period applies, there is a need for them to be used-up or disposed of by the end of August 2018.

Of course, some newly authorised rodenticides already feature the relevant hazard reclassification information and nothing further needs to be done. Please note that some professional-use anticoagulant rodenticide products are already below the 0.003% threshold, with a concentration of 0.0025%, so again nothing further needs to be done.



Neosorex[®] Gold

The UK's No 1 rat and mouse bait containing Fortec technology for increased consumption.



- Multi-purpose, cut wheat bait for fast, effective and consistent control
- Extremely palatable to both rats and mice with Fortec technology
- A lethal dose consumed within just one day
- Proven superior performance to ordinary baits
- Achieves superior control under a wide range of baiting conditions

 **BASF**
We create chemistry



BPCA

PPC LIVE

Professional pest control together

14 MARCH 2018 / THREE COUNTIES SHOWGROUND, MALVERN

REGISTER NOW FOR A FREE BREAKFAST ROLL AND DRINK!



PPC Live is coming up fast - and it's shaping up nicely

➔ www.pestcontrolnews.com @pestcontrolnews facebook/pestcontrolnews

It's not long now until BPCA's one-day trade show will arrive at the Three Counties Showground in Malvern, Worcestershire. Held on Wednesday 14 March 2018, PPC Live features technical seminars, outdoor demonstrations and over 50 exhibitors from around the world.

The tagline for PPC Live this year is "professional pest control together" with BPCA are encouraging all technicians, managers and company owners to come along. They're so keen for everyone to attend that they're offering free breakfast rolls and hot drinks for all preregistered guests.

The seminar programme has some interesting names in the line-up. Clive Boase, Savvas Othon and Killgerm's own Dr Matthew Davies will all be speaking on subjects ranging from mosquito management to pesticide resistance.

The outdoor demonstrations include falconry, air rifle safety, a moleing workshop, and even an unmanned aerial vehicle demonstration (or drones to you and me).

BPCA Events Manager, Lauren Day, said:

"If you're reading this magazine, then this event is for you.

"We're sure that anyone with an interest or involvement in public health pest control will find the show useful to attend.

"And there's up to 6 CPD points available by attending the event and a few seminars – which should go a long way towards your 20 point target".

You can register for free at bpc.org.uk/ppclive



PCN

PPC Live 2018

www.pestcontrolnews.com
[@pestcontrolnews](https://twitter.com/pestcontrolnews)
[facebook/pestcontrolnews](https://facebook.com/pestcontrolnews)

PPC Live Seminar schedule

No in-house marketing guru? No problem! Marketing for smaller companies

9.30 to 10.15

Ben Massey, Marketing and Communications Manager, British Pest Control Association (BPCA)

Actions vs impacts - a pest controller's quandary

10.30 to 11.15

Louise Summers, Director of Wildlife Services, Urban Wildlife
Gary Williams, Operations Director, Urban Wildlife

Options for mosquito management in the UK

11.30 to 12.15

Dr Matthew Davies, Head of Technical Department, Killgerm

Technology vs Technicians - how everybody wins (except the rats)

13.00 to 13.45

Savvas Othon, Group Science and Innovation Director, Rentokil Initial

The General Pest Control Technical Apprenticeship - what it means for you

14.00 to 14.30

Martin Rose-King, Partner, Bounty Pest Control. Head of Apprenticeship Development Group Karen Dawes, Training Manager, British Pest Control Association (BPCA)

Resistance - back to basics

14.45 to 15.45

Clive Boase, Principal Consultant, The Pest Management Consultancy

PPC Live outdoor demonstrations

The end of my tether - birds of prey and pest control

10.30 to 11.00

Speaker to be confirmed

Air Rifles - safe cleaning and transportation

11.30 - 12.00

Sam Walker, Regional Officer (South West England), British Association for Shooting and Conservation (BASC)

What if pest controllers could fly?

12.30 - 13.00

Speaker to be confirmed

Much ado about moleing

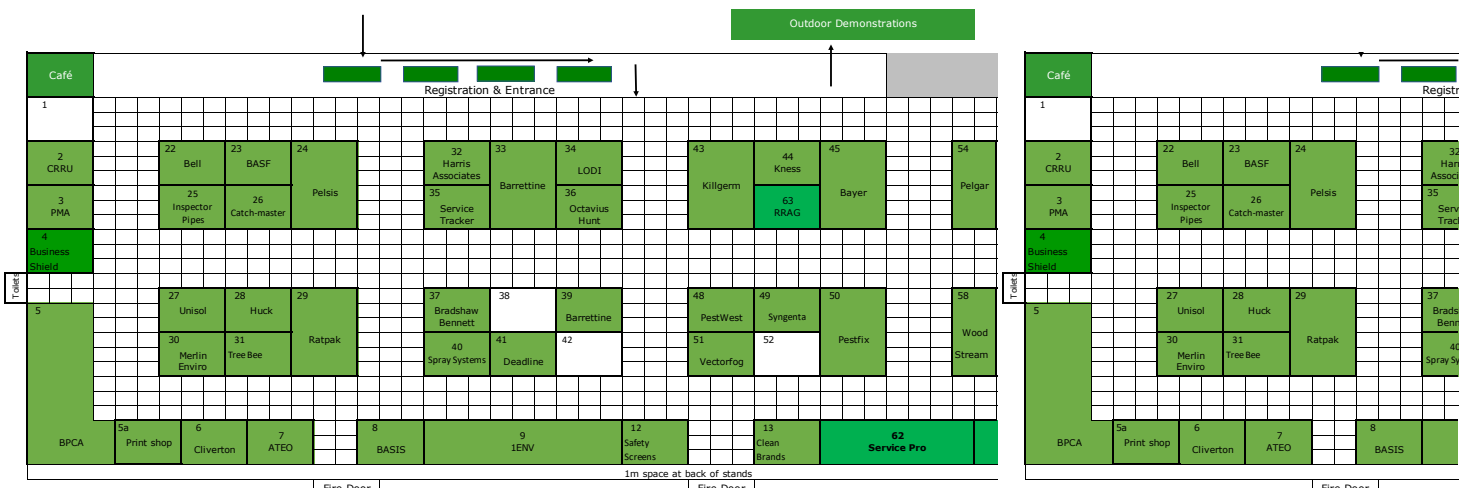
13.30 to 14.00

Dave Archer, Owner, DKA Pest Control

PPC Live Van of the Year 2018

Contact us now to take part hello@bPCA.org.uk

PPC Live Floor Plan



Pest-Protect 2018 Bremen



➔ www.pestcontrolnews.com 🐦 [@pestcontrolnews](https://twitter.com/pestcontrolnews) 👍 [facebook/pestcontrolnews](https://facebook.com/pestcontrolnews)

On the 24th and 25th of January 2018 the industry gathered in Bremen, Germany for Pest-Protect 2018. Following a successful event in Stuttgart, two years ago, the organisers decided to bring the exhibition to the north of the country. Bremen did not disappoint.

Familiar faces from all aspects of the industry were in attendance, although exhibitor numbers were down to 88 compared to Stuttgart in 2016 where there were 110 exhibitors. Many of the exhibitors pushed the boat out with their stands. BASF ran several small workshops on their stand which focused around beg bug control and the use of dogs for detection. Many of the major distributors, Killgerm GmbH and PPS, had large and impressive stands offering a wide food and drinks to their visitors.

As always, the talks were a success gaining interest amongst the delegates. The major theme for the talks was food safety and many of the talks were fully attended.

We're still awaiting the final numbers of delegates from DSV, but a lot of the exhibitors were happy with the number and quality of attendees to the two-day event.

Let's see what's in store for 2020!





Review of RSPH Qualifications

www.pestcontrolnews.com
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All of RSPH's qualifications for the pest control industry are regulated by Ofqual and so are subject to a number of conditions and requirements. One of these conditions is that we keep the qualifications under review and revise the qualifications as appropriate.

As a pest controller you will know that legislation, best practice, the availability of pesticides and even what animals need to be controlled all change with time. So it is important that qualifications used by the industry reflect what is current within the industry. As an example of this, during the recent debate about SGAR stewardship the RSPH Level 2 Award in Pest Management was recognised as the gold standard qualification, so anyone who had achieved this qualification was able to continue to purchase SGARs without any additional training or qualifications. However, RSPH realised that the content of the Level 2 relating to the use of rodenticides could be improved, so the qualification was revised to take the stewardship scheme into account. Our question bank is also regularly reviewed to ensure that questions are no longer asked about pest control products that have been withdrawn, and new questions devised to cover new products on the market or changed legislation.

This continual review process results in only minor changes to the syllabus or question bank, which mostly go unnoticed, but every five years we carry out a major review of a qualification which involves a more detailed and critical look at all aspects of the qualification. One such review is currently in progress for the RSPH Level 2 Award in Using Aluminium Phosphide Safely for the Management of Vertebrate Pests.

This review has coincided with some major changes in how pest controllers should use aluminium phosphide (for examples see recent articles in the pest control journals and the presentation given by David Cross at Pest Tech). These changes have been incorporated into the first draft of the revised syllabus which has been circulated to all of our centres which deliver training in the use of aluminium phosphide.

The draft syllabus now includes occupational exposure limits and threshold limit values, monitoring of phosphine levels and guidance on the use of water for cleaning equipment (a requirement recently added to the product label by the manufacturer's is that equipment should be washed out thoroughly after use, but there is then a risk to the operator if the equipment is not thoroughly dried to remove all traces of water before it is used again). Additionally, the syllabus used to refer to the damage caused by rats, rabbits and moles as reasons why these species should be controlled by aluminium phosphide; the revised draft does not refer to any animal but instead mentions the damage caused by target species.

Once the review is complete the questions used in the exam papers will be revised and added to in order to cover any new or revised content. Centres will be advised of any changes before new exam papers are released.

Any changes that we make to the qualifications have to be agreed by our sector advisory panel, which meets on a regular basis and includes representatives from industry and our approved centres. At our next meeting in April we will hopefully be able to sign-off the review of the aluminium phosphide qualification, and also look at the L2 Award in Pest Management to see if any changes are needed to the content of this qualification, or to the pest species and protected species that are covered by it.

If you think that anything in our qualifications needs to be updated or removed, please contact us to let us know. As front-line practitioners of pest management you are ideally placed to suggest changes to what is taught to new pest controllers and assessed in our examinations.

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VISION, VOICE AND PRACTICE



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Countdown to new data protection regulations gather pace

New requirements on companies and organisations who have a responsibility for safeguarding sensitive personal data are looming ever-closer. With fewer than three months until the General Data Protection Regulation comes into force.

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) - what does it mean for you?

ON May 25 2018, the GDPR will come into force. Whilst this new legislation has similarities with the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA) there are some new requirements placed on companies and organisations who are responsible for data protection.

Whilst the principles contained in the DPA remain in force, the GDPR adds to these principles and, perhaps most importantly, creates a new accountability requirement. If a company is found to be non-compliant with the requirements of the GDPR then the associated penalties are much more severe than under the DPA.

Organisations can now be fined up to 20 million Euros or 4% of their annual turnover (whichever is greater); this is more onerous than when compared to the previous penalty of £500,000.

This article is designed to give you an oversight on what the GDPR will mean and what companies should be looking at doing at this time, including:-

- Lawful processing
- Individual rights
- Accountability and breach
- Transfer of data
- Next steps

Lawful Processing

In order to process personal data and sensitive personal data, it must be lawful and transparent under the requirements of the GDPR.

Personal data is now more clearly defined however, in practice (if you currently keep records i.e. customer lists, contact details, employee data), little will change as the scope of DPA falls into the scope of the GDPR. Sensitive personal data covers special categories of personal data for example, genetic data.

All organisations must identify a **lawful basis** before you can process personal data and this decision should be documented. A company's decision regarding lawful processing has an affect on individual rights. Examples of lawful processing include (but are not limited to):-

- Consent of the individual
- It is necessary for the performance of a contract with the individual (or to take steps to enter into a contract)
- It is necessary for compliance of a legal obligation
- It is necessary to protect the vital interests of the individual or another person/party

Consent under the Regulations must be given freely and has to be a positive action, so organisations cannot rely upon an individual being silent, inactive or a pre-ticked box to show that “consent” is given freely. Further, it has been stipulated that consent regarding GDPR processing must be easily withdrawn. As an Employer you must ensure and give particular care to ensure consent is given by your employees in order to lawfully process their data.

Individual Rights

Rights already provided under the DPA are to be enhanced under the GDPR and some further rights are created. The following rights are provided:-

- The right to be informed – this includes an obligation to ensure fair processing information is passed on and available meaning that a privacy notice is required.
- The right of access – this includes the right to obtain confirmation that personal data is being processed, access to their personal data and other information (as contained in a privacy notice). The fee of providing information under a subject access request is no longer payable although if a request is unfounded or excessive a reasonable fee could be payable. Finally, information must now be provided within one month of receipt of the request
- The right to rectification – if personal data is inaccurate or incomplete
- The right to erasure – an individual has the right to request the removal of personal data where there is no reason for its continued processing. This includes where an individual withdraws consent.
- The right to restrict processing – personal data may still be stored but you would not be entitled to further process it. For example, an individual contests the accuracy of the data.
- The right to data portability – to allow individuals to obtain and reuse their personal data for their own purposes across different services. This means that data has to be provided free of charge and is stored in formats that are readable by other organisations. Again, time limits to comply are within one month (although extensions could be sought in certain circumstances).
- The right to object – this includes direct marketing and processing for purposes of research/statistics. This right must be in your privacy notice and also individuals should be informed of this at first communication with them.
- Rights in relation to automated decision making and profiling – in order to prevent a potentially damaging decision being made without human intervention.

Accountability and breach of personal data

The GDPR is focused on transparency and looks to promote accountability. Therefore, organisations need to ensure that they are aware of their responsibilities and what measures they have taken to comply with the

Regulations, for example; staff training, review of their HR policies, keeping relevant records and updating their privacy notice. If needed, a Data Protection Officer (DPO) should be appointed who is responsible for ensuring that organisations are compliant and will be a main point of contact for individuals who have their data processed along with the supervisory authorities.

If your business has over 250 employees then you must maintain internal records of processing activities, including records that deal with data connected to risk of rights and freedoms of the individual. There are also special categories of data including criminal convictions and offences.

A breach is more than simply a loss of personal data and means a breach of security leading to the destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorised disclosure of or access to personal data. A breach which is likely to result in a risk to the rights and freedoms of an individual should be reported within 72 hours to the relevant supervisory authority. Organisations should therefore put in place an internal procedure for reporting and investigations to ensure that they comply with this requirement.

Next Steps

If, as an organisation, you deal with personal data then you need to be looking at the following:-

- What information you hold now – you will need to ensure that your records are up to date, including how you came about the information and where you have shared it especially if this is outside of the European Economic Area.
- Update your privacy policy/notices to ensure these are compliant with GDPR
- <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-data-protection/privacy-notices-transparency-and-control/your-privacy-notice-checklist/>
- Review your current procedures to ensure they cover all rights provided to individuals by the GDPR and ensure these are communicated to all individuals

- Review your procedures for subject access requests to ensure these are up to date, noting that the timescales are now one month
- Identify a lawful basis for processing activity and ensure that this is documented and your privacy notice explains the position
- Ensure that you review how you obtain consent and how this is managed to ensure that it meets the requirements set by the GDPR. If your organisation deals with children then further thought needs to be given regarding consent and the protection afforded to children’s personal data
- Consider whether the organisation is required to have a Data Protection Officer or whether it would be beneficial as they can be appointed to deal with and review any breaches or potential breach
- If you are active in recruitment then you need to ensure that data processed is compliant with the regulations including ensuring consent is provided including should you wish to obtain a criminal records check (especially if a role is not specifically authorised by law).

Should you require any advice or assistance in ensuring your business is compliant with the Act or any other legal issues please contact the author Giles Ward at Milners Solicitors giles.ward@milnerslaw.com - 0113 3801 850/07789 401411.



When I started out in pest control - Asa's story



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Learning pest control and meeting BPCA

I was lucky enough to find that the founder and head PCO of Ratatak – Chris Tunmore – was the father of a friend of mine. He introduced me to the trade and became a bit of a mentor-figure, helping me out when I needed advice on a tricky mouse job or how to outsmart the fox!

I also found BPCA and all the advice and information they offer. After a few of their online courses and some sessions in the field with Chris, I suddenly found myself at university. Well, sort of...

... I had enrolled to do the **BPCA/RSPH Level 2 Award in Pest Management**, a 1-week residential course which was then hosted at Warwick University by BPCA. I was taught by such luminaries of pest control as Clive Boase, Richard Moseley and the BPCA's own Kevin Higgins (who went on to help immeasurably with advice and support in the following years and does so to this day).

Aged 38, it was very strange to be staying on a student campus, albeit briefly.

During the training, my eyes were opened to the range and diversity of Pest Control. The course was intense and structured to cover a lot of topics over the 5-day course, a huge amount of information had to be absorbed, and there was a difficult exam at the end - it was by no means a formality and I was proud of my pass!

It seemed that most of the other attendees had some experience of the industry, whether privately or through local councils, and so the constant question in my mind during the course was, "could I go out on my own in this industry from scratch after this course?" – I asked Richard Moseley at the end of one of his lectures and he assured me that, with the support of the BPCA, I could.

He was right, and in the first few years, I leaned on them heavily. There was always somebody there who could give me the help I needed, on everything from practical

field advice to the subtleties of dealing with customers and managing expectations as a pest controller.

But like every new graduate full of enthusiasm, the most important thing was to come down to earth and learn one fundamental thing quickly: it might be easy to get started, but it's hard to get good!

New challenges and infuriating mysteries

Since then, I have been round the houses and back a few times. Although like anything, it ends up quite routine most of the time, someone once joked that every job in pest control is the exception to rule... and you know what, they're right.

You simply cannot ever be sure of what you'll find. The next surprise, new challenge, or infuriating mystery is always just around the corner. From rats on farms and bird strikes at airfields, to an escaped pet snake and 'catching' phantom beasties behind the walls... it feels like I've seen a lot. But in truth, I haven't even scratched the surface of what's out there.

So if you're reading this wondering about a career in pest control or worried if work will pick up, or anything else at all... hang on in there! Because as day follows night, pests will appear and the phone will always ring.

Thinking about starting out in pest control or setting up your own pest management business?

Take a look at the BPCA Probationary Scheme or learn more about the Level 2 Award in Pest Management. Alternatively, give our team a call on 01332 294 288 and the BPCA Staff team will be happy to help.

bpc.org.uk/membership
bpc.org.uk/training

Asa Goldschmied, Founder and Director of Proton Environmental, started out in the pest management industry five years ago now. He looks back at what it was like to change careers and his first tricky quarter in the business.

The in-laws have been sent packing... the Quality Street's empty... the bins are full... and Christmas is well and truly over.

For most, it's a bittersweet mixture of relief and gloom. But whatever the festive period is for you, the first quarter is the universal leveller. I don't know if it's just me, but this always makes the start of the year a lean time for pest control too.

I remember after I decided to go it alone and set up my own business. It was almost unbearable. Work was at a trickle... I spent more time doing my old job to make ends meet than out doing pest control... and every day I was wondering what possessed me to get into pest control in the first place.

A few years down the line now, I don't dread the first few months of the year anymore. And looking back I am very pleased I made the leap and got into pest control as a career. It's the best thing I've ever done.

But the memory of those early days is still with me. And I always find myself at this time of year thinking back to that question, why choose pest control?

For me, I was in limbo in my working life... not really happy anymore in my previous career but also not sure whether I could face starting something entirely new.

Your guide to the pest control 2018 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 223-225. For further information or to book your place on a course call 01924 268445 or email training@killgerm.com.

FEBRUARY 2018

21st February 2018	Ossett	Killgerm Principles of Rodent Control
22nd February 2018	Grangemouth	Pest Awareness for Non PCOs
27th February 2018	Belfast	Killgerm Principles of Rodent Control
28th February 2018	Belfast	Equipment Maintenance

MARCH 2018

6th March 2018	Cluny Clays	Safe Use of Aluminium Phosphide for Vertebrate Control
13th March 2018	Ossett	Killgerm Principles of Rodent Control
14th March 2018	Ossett	Insect Workshop 2 - Ants, Bees & Wasps
15th March 2018	Aldershot	Safe Use of Aluminium Phosphide for Vertebrate Control
20th March 2018	Newbury	Killgerm Principles of Rodent Control
21st March 2018	Aldershot	Insect Workshop 1 - Bedbugs & Fleas
22nd March 2018	Aldershot	Insect Workshop 2 - Ants, Bees & Wasps
27th March 2018	Grangemouth	Killgerm Principles of Rodent Control
28th March 2018	Killamarsh	Trapping Techniques

APRIL 2018

10th April 2018	Ossett	Killgerm Principles of Rodent Control
10th April 2018	Norwich	Killgerm Principles of Rodent Control
11th April 2018	Ossett	Insect Control
11th April 2018	Norwich	Insect Control
12th April 2018	Ossett	Safe Use of Pesticides
12th April 2018	Bisley	Safe Use of Air Weapons for Bird Control
12th April 2018	Norwich	Safe Use of Pesticides
17th April 2018	Bristol	Killgerm Principles of Rodent Control
18th April 2018	Ossett	Principles Involved in Controlling Pests in Drainage Systems
19th April 2018	Aldershot	Working Safely in Pest Control (IOSH)
24th April 2018	Bretton	Safe Use of Aluminium Phosphide for Vertebrate Control
24th April 2018	Coventry	Killgerm Principles of Rodent Control
24th April 2018	Cluny Clays	Safe Use of Air Weapons for Bird Control
25th April 2018	Coventry	Insect Control
25th April 2018	Plymouth	Insect Workshop 2 - Ants, Bees & Wasps
26th April 2018	Plymouth	Insect Workshop 1 - Bedbugs & Fleas
26th April 2018	Coventry	Safe Use of Pesticides
26th April 2018	Kibworth	Safe Use of Air Weapons for Bird Control

MAY 2018

1st May 2018	Bisley	Theory - Bird Control
2nd May 2018	Bisley	Practical - Bird Control
2nd May 2018	Bristol	Insect Workshop 1 - Bedbugs & Fleas
3rd May 2018	Bristol	Insect Workshop 2 - Ants, Bees & Wasps
9th May 2018	Ossett	Pest Control Refresher
15th May 2018	Ossett	Killgerm Principles of Rodent Control
17th May 2018	Ossett	Insect Identification
17th May 2018	Aldershot	Pest Awareness for Non PCOs
22nd May 2018	Kibworth	Theory - Bird Control
22nd May 2018	Perth	Killgerm Principles of Rodent Control
23rd May 2018	Kibworth	Practical - Bird Control
23rd May 2018	Perth	Insect Control
24th May 2018	Perth	Safe Use of Pesticides
29th May 2018	Aldershot	Killgerm Principles of Rodent Control
30th May 2018	Aldershot	Insect Control
31st May 2018	Aldershot	Safe Use of Pesticides

To book visit - www.killgerm.com



BPCA PROGRAMMES UNTIL SEP 2018

ADVANCED TECHNICIAN IN PEST MANAGEMENT*

- 26 April – Co. Meath
- 23 May – East of England
- 26 June – London
- 26 September – North West

BECOMING A FIELD BIOLOGIST COURSE

- 8 March – Preston
- 25 September – North West

CERTIFIED FIELD BIOLOGIST*

- 25 April – Co. Meath
- 22 May – East of England
- 28 Jun – London
- 27 Sep – North West

BECOMING A TECHNICAL INSPECTOR COURSE

- 16 March – Dewsbury

CERTIFIED TECHNICAL INSPECTOR*

- 23 March – Staffordshire
- 11 April – Bristol
- 24 April – Co. Meath
- 3 May – Derby
- 27 June – London

*exam only

MORE DATES AND COURSES ONLINE AT
WWW.BPCA.ORG.UK/TRAINING

To book visit www.bpca.co.uk



FEBRUARY 22, 2018

RSPH Level 2 Award in Pest Management -
Day 1 - 22nd February 2018
Day 2 - 23rd February 2018
Day 3 - 28th February 2018
Day 4 - 1st March 2018
Day 5 - 8th March 2018
Day 6 - 15th March 2018

MAY 17, 2018

RSPH Level 2 Award in the safe use of Rodenticides

MAY 24, 2018

Practical Wasp Control

JUNE 7, 2018

RSPH Level 2 Award in Pest Management -
Day 1 - 7th June 2018
Day 2 - 8th June 2018
Day 3 - 14th June 2018
Day 4 - 15th June 2018
Day 5 - 21st June 2018
Day 6 - 22nd June 2018

JUNE 7, 2018

RSPH Level 2 Certificate in Pest Management -
Day 1 - 7th June 2018
Day 2 - 8th June 2018
Day 3 - 14th June 2018
Day 4 - 15th June 2018
Day 5 - 21st June 2018
Day 6 - 22nd June 2018

JUNE 28, 2018

RSPH Level 2 Award in Pest Management

JUNE 28, 2018

RSPH Level 2 Certificate in Pest Management

FEBRUARY 22, 2018

RSPH Level 2 Certificate in Pest Management -
Day 1 - 22nd February 2018
Day 2 - 23rd February 2018
Day 3 - 28th February 2018
Day 4 - 1st March 2018
Day 5 - 8th March 2018
Day 6 - 15th March 2018

MARCH 16, 2018

RSPH Level 2 Award in Pest Management

MARCH 16, 2018

RSPH Level 2 Certificate in Pest Management

APRIL 26, 2018

Practical Wasp Control

MAY 3, 2018

Practical Vertebrate Trapping

MAY 10, 2018

Level 2 Award in the Safe Use of Aluminium Phosphide for Vertebrate Pest Control

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