

# PCN

**PEST CONTROL NEWS®**

THE MAGAZINE FOR THE PEST CONTROL INDUSTRY



issue **120**

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## New product manager at Bayer

Bayer Environmental Science has appointed a new product manager to oversee the pest product portfolio.

Tim Peeling has been working in the professional pest sector for over 15 years and brings a huge amount of experience to the team.

"I spent the first ten years of my career on the ground as a pest controller at Prokill and then moved on to be a product manager at Pelsis which is where I spent the last five years," says Tim.

"I'm delighted to join the team, and I'm really looking forward to overseeing the pest product portfolio, as well as getting involved in research and development which Bayer is so well known for in the industry," adds Tim.

"It'll be great to get involved with exciting new product developments, as well as raise awareness of new products on the market, such as K-Othrine Partix."

Alan Morris, Bayer head of environmental science, says the team are excited to have Tim on board.

"Tim's ability to provide a wide range of experience and industry insight throughout the supply chain will be invaluable, especially with Bayer continually investing in new developments to ensure they can offer a wide range of high-quality solutions to pest controllers," concludes Alan.



## A fourth Asian hornet sighting has been confirmed in Dorset

A fourth Asian hornet was reported and has been confirmed in Dorset.

The Asian hornet was sighted and reported by a member of the public at Highcliffe in Christchurch in Dorset and was confirmed 1st October. Monitoring is underway to detect any other Asian hornets in the vicinity.

### Identifying an Asian hornet

Asian hornets have a dark brown or black velvety body. They have a characteristically dark abdomen and yellow tipped legs. They are smaller than the native European hornet.



## Natural Resources Wales issue new General Licences

From Monday 7 October, NRW issued new general licences. This change comes about, where after taking legal advice, NRW concluded that some of the General Licences were not lawful. NRW subsequently reviewed the evidence base on which some of the General Licences are issued, and the conditions within them, and talked to stakeholders about the changes that might be needed. As a result, one General Licence is withdrawn completely, and four others replaced.

NRW made the following changes to the species covered by the new General Licences, where it was not felt that the evidence to retain them on the General Licence approach was strong enough:

GL001 – Prevent serious damage to livestock, foodstuffs for livestock, crops, vegetables or fruit or to prevent the spread of disease to livestock, foodstuffs for livestock, crops, vegetables or fruit. This does not now include rook, jay or collared dove. NRW have also revised the purpose of this General Licence so as to be for the spread of disease to livestock, foodstuffs for livestock, crops, vegetables or fruit.

GL002 – Preserving public health and preventing the spread of disease. This does not now include carrion crow, magpie, jackdaw, rook, jay, collared dove or wood pigeon.

iii. GL004 – Conservation of wild birds. This does not now include rook, feral pigeon or Canada goose.

Visit the Natural Resources Wales licensing webpage for more information and advice.



## Bovine TB: authorisation for badger control in 2019

More licences have been released for the Bovine TB: authorisation for badger control in different areas <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bovine-tb-authorisation-for-badger-control-in-2019>



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## NPAP RELEASE ASIAN HORNET GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

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In order to raise awareness and provide guidance regarding Asian hornets to those involved in public health pest management, the National Pest Advisory Panel (NPAP) has produced a guide to Asian hornet identification and awareness. The guide can be downloaded from [urbanpestsbook.com](http://urbanpestsbook.com), where you can also order documents for free, or purchase educational DVD's.



### Sale of Acheta to Kiwa Ltd

Kiwa Ltd is part of the international Kiwa organisation owned by the Kiwa Group, an international testing, inspection and certification (TIC) group headquartered in the Netherlands. Kiwa Ltd comprises six UK business areas forming the Kiwa UK Group.

The Kiwa UK Group is an established organisation with an ambitious growth strategy; it has doubled in size in the last 4 years through both organic growth and by acquisition.

Acheta will be an operating division of Harrogate-based Kiwa Agri Food, a UKAS-accredited Product Conformity Certification Body, also with a BRC 5-star rating as a Certified Body.

Acheta's core business activities, independent pest management inspection, training and consultancy continue unchanged, as does the Acheta Management Team, headed by Dr John Simmons and supported by regional managers Ian Adamson and Mark Bowron.

Commenting on the sale, John said: "I have grown the business over 19 years to be highly professional, well respected and staffed by excellent employees. The Agri Food division of Kiwa is a very good fit for what we do. We share some customers already, and we now have an opportunity to expand into Kiwa's customer base, and vice versa. As Kiwa is a global operation, the potential to eventually expand the Acheta offering internationally is both significant and exciting!"

Paul Brown, CEO of Kiwa Ltd added: "I am delighted to welcome the Acheta team to Kiwa. Acheta's expertise and reputation in the marketplace complements our Kiwa Agri Food service offering perfectly. The potential synergies from this joining of forces are many, as are the opportunities for innovation, growth and an expanding UK and international presence".



# A new age for insecticides

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## Fendona<sup>®</sup> 6 SC to be **withdrawn**

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*It is understandable to be crestfallen at news of the impending withdrawal of Fendona® 6 SC, but could this be the bolt from the blue that benefits the pest control industry?*

*To use a famous quote ‘necessity is the mother of invention’, the unfolding situation may stimulate and shake-up ideas in the public health pest control industry.*

*Perhaps we will see a race from manufacturers, to attempt to fill the void of such popular products, with a drive towards new formulation technology that enhances the effects of existing active ingredients while minimising environmental and health risks?*

Pest Control News contacted the Killgerm Chemicals technical department, to ask for their take on the upcoming withdrawal of Fendona® 6 SC, and the following is based on their thoughts.

Just before we proceed, remember that we’ve been here before and survived, from Empire 20 to Demand® CS via Stingray. It’s an *enormous* disappointment when excellent products are faced with withdrawal but not quite ‘the end of pest control as we know it’.

## What just happened?

### FENDONA® 6 SC

In accordance with the Biocidal Products Regulations, BASF submitted dossiers to support renewal of the following products in the UK:

- **Fendona® 6 SC (HSE 4455)**

Evaluation of the dossiers is complete and new authorisations have been granted for uses only in poultry houses against a limited range of pest species. The existing urban pest control uses have not been approved due to a procedural irregularity on the part of the reference member state Greece.

Due to the limitations on use, BASF has taken the decision not to introduce the new product label onto the market.

Stocks of Fendona® 6 SC (HSE 4455) will be phased out as follows:

- **12 January 2020:** last date for sale and supply.
- **16 July 2020:** last date for storage, use and disposal.

BASF are pursuing activities to extend the uses of these products to include urban pest control and further updates will follow.

### What alternatives do we have?

Reading the statement from BASF we believe that Fendona® 6 SC will make a comeback, so let’s be optimistic and call this a ‘temporary withdrawal’. Still, it makes sense to run the rule over some alternatives.

#### Novel formulations are now available

A beneficial feature of the affected product is the residual formulation and suitability for porous surfaces such as brickwork.

It is timely then that Bayer have released K-Othrine Partix, a residual suspension concentrate suitable for porous surfaces, based on a novel formulation involving carnuba wax. The natural wax further reduces the environmental impact following application while also protecting the active from degradation, UV light and moisture which helps to provide better residual control. The product can be effective for up to 12 weeks when controlling general insects and up to eight weeks for bed bugs and spiders. Furthermore, this novel formulation has particles 10 times the size of typical insecticides, so the application remains on the surface increasing bioavailability and contact to the pest, allowing more effective residual control. This increased particle size means it provides a much more consistent performance on absorbent surfaces such as wood and concrete, resulting in increased product efficacy. This avoids a problem of smaller particles getting lost in microscopic gaps on surfaces. Aside from the formulation, K-Othrine Partix is based on the ‘top end’ highly-effective 4th generation pyrethroid Deltamethrin, which provides broad-spectrum control of a range of pests in many areas of use.



### Resistance management is still possible

It is expected that alternative products will come to the fore in terms of resistance management, such as those containing insect growth regulators (IGRs), with options for physical control including immobilisation and temperature.

### Physical mode of action products coming to the fore

Under the radar somewhat is the recent introduction of a ‘molecular mesh’ / ‘sprayable entrapping’ product, for insect control, described as a resistance-breaking and novel technique that causes external immobilisation of target species. The drawbacks, of direct application being required and no residuality, are outweighed by the significant benefits. Crucially the ‘molecular mesh’ works purely by physical means (by external immobilization) and, as confirmed by the Health and Safety Executive, falls outside of the definition of biocidal products and therefore the requirements of the Biocidal Products Regulations. What this means, in practice, is a degree of flexibility in application including treatment against a broad range of arthropod pests across many areas of use. Vazor® Provecta is the name.

Another option for insect control is the use of aerosol freezing sprays, such as Vazor® Ice and similar, that work by lowering the temperature of the treated insects to below their tolerable threshold. While a freezing aerosol may not always be suitable for an entire treatment, there is a place for these products especially for spot treatments in sensitive situations to supplement other control measures.

### More new insecticides are on the horizon

Fans of Syngenta’s Advion® cockroach bait will be interested to know that a sprayable indoxacarb based product, Advion® WDG, is available in certain parts of the world. This is certainly ‘one to watch’ for the future in terms of the UK. Indoxacarb benefits include the ‘reduced risk’ classification as applied by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the United States, and the novel mode of action that breaks pyrethroid resistance. It is also worth noting that Indoxacarb is non-repellent. Finally, keep an eye out for an ‘encore’ for Demand® CS!

### Seek technical support

There are of course many other control options and this article is by no means an exhaustive examination of alternatives, with heat treatment being a notable and underrated treatment that should be considered.

At a potentially difficult and confusing time, regarding changes to familiar insecticides, it is important to contact highly qualified and experienced technical advisors to help guide you through this period. With six technical advisors and a dedicated in-house entomologist having vast insect knowledge at Killgerm Chemicals UK, boasting more than a combined 165 years of experience in insect biology and control, you know who to trust for unbiased and reliable technical support when you need it most.



***“Fans of Syngenta’s Advion® cockroach bait will be interested to know that a sprayable indoxacarb based product, Advion® WDG, is available in certain parts of the world. This is certainly ‘one to watch’ for the future in terms of the UK. ”***



# Withdrawals and restrictions: What does this mean for the future of the insecticide arsenal?

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**W**ith so many changes, product withdrawals, restrictions and new label limitations happening its time we looked for some explanation and detail as to why this is occurring.

It's always good to get more information and clarity around insecticide authorisations and hopefully shed a little light on the subject. It isn't always simple to explain why changes occur, products disappear or are withdrawn. It's often much more complex due to several different parties, member states and of course the relevant legislation.

Pest Control News have spoken to a high-profile regulatory affairs chemist from one of the UK manufacturers for some answers around new products and current trends. Here is the lowdown.

**Q - Some insecticides have disappeared in recent months due to withdrawal or failure to re-register. Do you think this is the start of a coming trend?**

A - The loss of products is almost inevitable due to the high cost of supporting both active ingredients and products through the BPR (Biocidal Products Regulation (EU) 528/2012) approval process. Other factors affecting the approval are the strict requirements of products under the BPR, needing to be safer and have a proven efficacy against specific species.

**Q - We often see products subject to label changes upon re-approval. Is this down to the risk assessment HSE pose during the reregistration process?**

A - There are several players when it comes to the assessment of risk of biocidal products. Active ingredients may have their classification reviewed by the ECHA's (European Chemicals Agency) RAC (Risk Assessment Committee). Biocidal products have restrictions placed on them by ECHA's BPC (Biocidal Products Committee). Then, member states can have their own say, to some extent, with certain member states not accepting the use of some actives full stop.

Where products are deemed suitable, they often lose areas of use. This is due to the BPR having higher environmental and human health requirements than previous national regimes like COPR (Control of Pesticides Regulations). There are some derogations that can be applied but these cannot overturn most of the decisions made by the mentioned committees. People may welcome Brexit with the hopes that the opinions and decisions made by these committees will not have to be followed. I urge caution with this line of thinking as the HSE will see it as crucial to remain in step with Europe's BPR and REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation & restriction of Chemicals) requirements. Europe is at the forefront of scientific thinking backed up with the required data to support it. Most nations, globally, are adopting similar chemical regimes in line with Europe who are seen as having the gold standard for chemicals management and approval.

**Q - Is it possible that more products may be lost as they too go through re-approval?**

A - More products will be lost. This is because some products fail to make it past the initial BPR risk assessments due to the tougher safety requirements of the BPR for both the environment and human health. The ones that do make it through will inevitably have restricted use. This includes losing things like outdoor use and coarse spraying of hard and soft surfaces due to the same higher requirements protecting both human health and the environment.

**Q - There are more insecticide products available now that are not classed as biocides. Is this exploiting a loop hole in the system? Is it an early indicator of a shift to 'physical' action chemicals?**

A - Although the biocides regulation does give a very specific definition of what is considered a biocide that does not mean that these kinds of products will always be considered outside of the biocides regime. An example of this is Diatomaceous Earth which has for years been considered a physical mode of action but has been drawn into the BPR. Even with products considered to be outside of the biocides regime, their ingredients will be affected by the other chemical regulations like REACH, CLP (European Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008) and such which will inevitably have some impact on these kinds of chemicals in the future.

For the last question we turned to an industry technical department...

**Q - With the arrival of the innovative K-Othrine Partix; what other new developments in insecticides do you see coming in the next few years?**

A - Starting with the downside, labels are shrinking and not covering as many species or areas of use. This is an overall negative in public health pest control. In the positive camp, I see an upward trend of investment in novel formulation technologies. Novel formulation technology, such as the carnauba wax in Bayer's K-Othrine Partix, has been shown to extend stability and residuality of deltamethrin and can be used on various different surfaces. This is a fantastic innovation. I also envisage physical mode-of-action products making an impact on the market. Products such as Vazor® Provecta, (which is not classed as a biocide) is a flexible product with no known resistance which gives it longevity in a changing market and environment. I fully expect products such as this to emerge more and more as the restrictions on chemicals increase. Lab trials and anecdotal reports from our customers speak for themselves as the results are, in most cases, impressive.

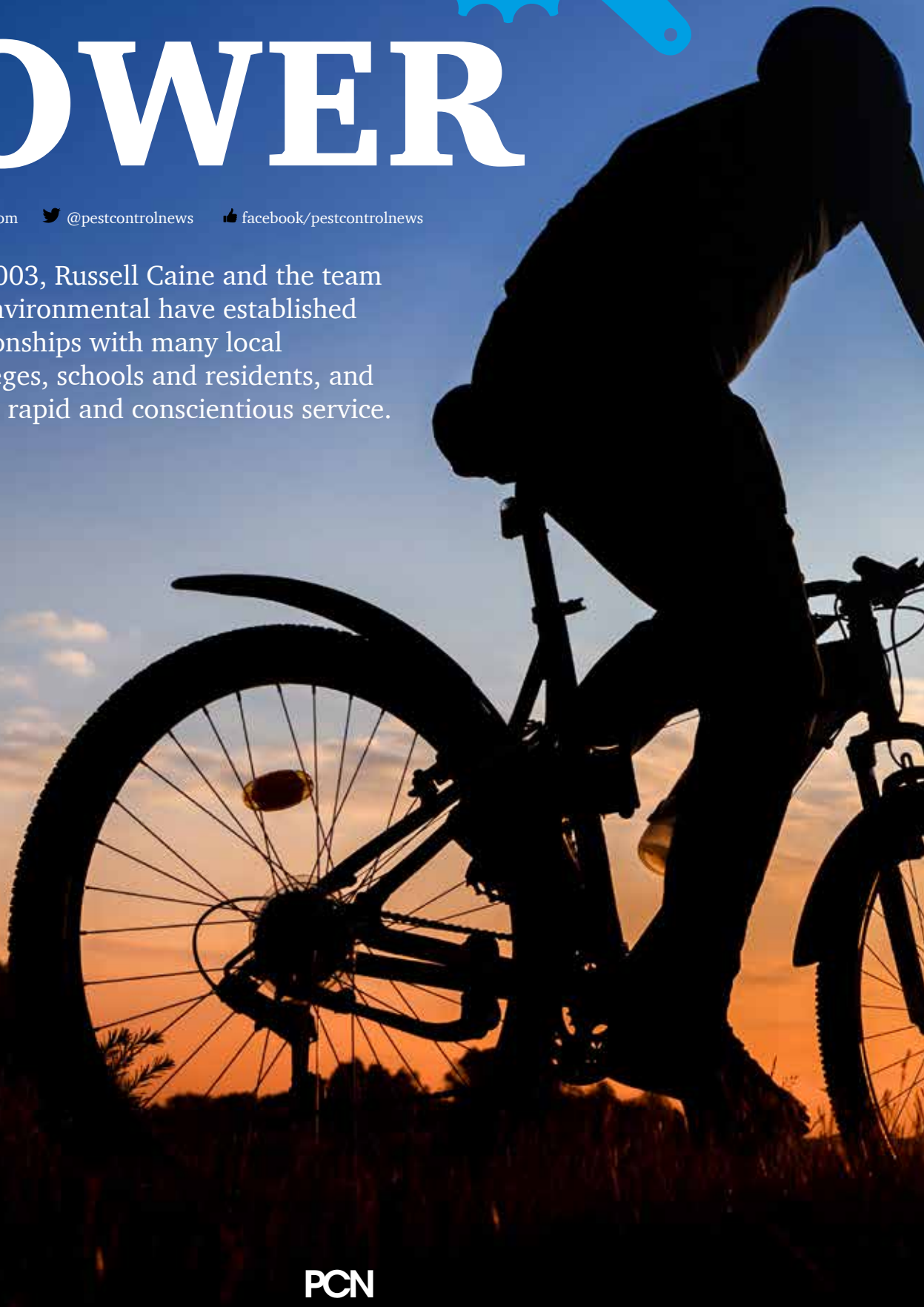
In conclusion, the chemical companies have a tough job on their hands. Faced with an ever-changing environment and marketplace it is not an easy time. It's a real bonus to see some products remain, such as Ficam D. It's also reassuring to see innovations with existing active ingredients, which we don't see all that often in the industry. There is light at the end of the tunnel!

# PEDAL POWER



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Established in 2003, Russell Caine and the team at Cambridge Environmental have established long term relationships with many local companies, colleges, schools and residents, and aim to provide a rapid and conscientious service.





**R**ecently, in an effort to reduce their carbon footprint, they have taken to travelling around Cambridge visiting customers on a custom-made bicycle.

Here Russell answers some questions about cycling in pest control.

#### **Why do you cycle for your business?**

I was looking for ways in which we could reduce our carbon footprint at Cambridge Environmental. Due to business growth, I employed a gentleman who happened to be a keen cyclist. After some thought I wanted to develop a bike that we could use instead of motor vehicles and after speaking to a fellow local business we were able to get a bike built and get started.

#### **What kind of bicycle do you ride?**

The bike is a bespoke electric cargo bicycle built by Outspoken Cycles in Cambridge, at a cost of around £3,500. We were able to get a grant from Department for Transport which gave us a 20% discount on the cost of the bicycle.

#### **How has this affected your business?**

We have found that the main benefit was the money we saved. Buying the bicycle meant that we didn't need to buy a van and pay all the associated costs that came with owning and running a van, such as insurance and servicing. The bike still needs to be serviced, but this is still a significant saving.

#### **Is it quicker to get around Cambridge?**

I haven't completed a time analysis at this stage because it is not the most critical factor for the business, but it certainly makes it a lot easier. For city centre contracts where road restrictions are in place, the bike is invaluable as it means we can get to the customers premises quickly and easily, without having the hassle of finding somewhere to park and paying the parking fees.

#### **How many miles do you cover each day?**

It's difficult to put an exact figure on the miles covered each day. The battery capacity on the bike allows for up to 60 miles, and this more than enough for the business on a daily basis.

#### **Are you able to attend every job on your bike?**

The bike is mainly used for city centre contracts, where road restrictions may be in place, and businesses may be close together. It is an urban solution, as we are based in central Cambridge and this is where we work, the bike is a great solution for us. Plus, Cambridge is a very bike friendly city, which makes life easier!

#### **Do you have enough room to store all the products that you need?**

We have to be selective about which products can be taken when using the bike. We carry products for dealing with wasps' nests, rodent contracts and crawling insect sprays and we would allocate the jobs accordingly.

**“For city centre contracts where road restrictions are in place, the bike is invaluable as it means we can get to the customers premises quickly and easily.”**

#### **What do your customers say when you arrive on your bicycle?**

Customers are usually pleasantly surprised!

We always get a good reaction. Cycling is popular in Cambridge and people like to see local businesses getting involved and reducing their carbon footprint.

#### **Would you recommend cycling to other Pest Controllers based in big cities?**

I would definitely recommend cycling for other pest control businesses, but only those based in urban areas. Cycling is a really good alternative to owning a van. It makes it much easier to get around city centres and as the bike is electric, you don't need to be a keen cyclist in order to get started.

#### **Any tips for other budding business cyclists?**

Check what work is available within a 60-mile radius of where your business is based. Usually 10 jobs are required within a 3-mile radius in order to make it work. Cycling is perfect for towns and cities like Cambridge, where there may be restrictions or congestion charges in the centre.

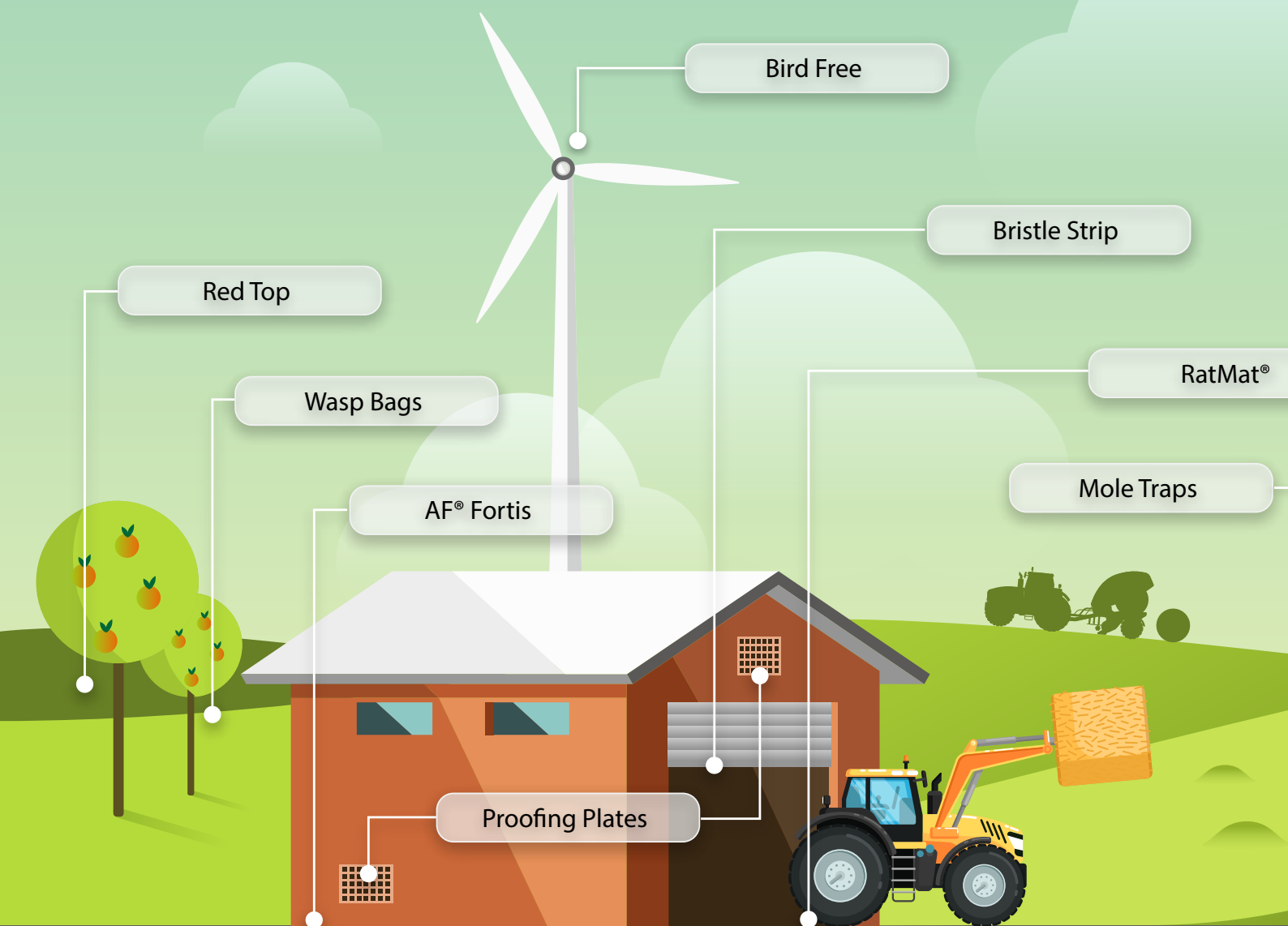




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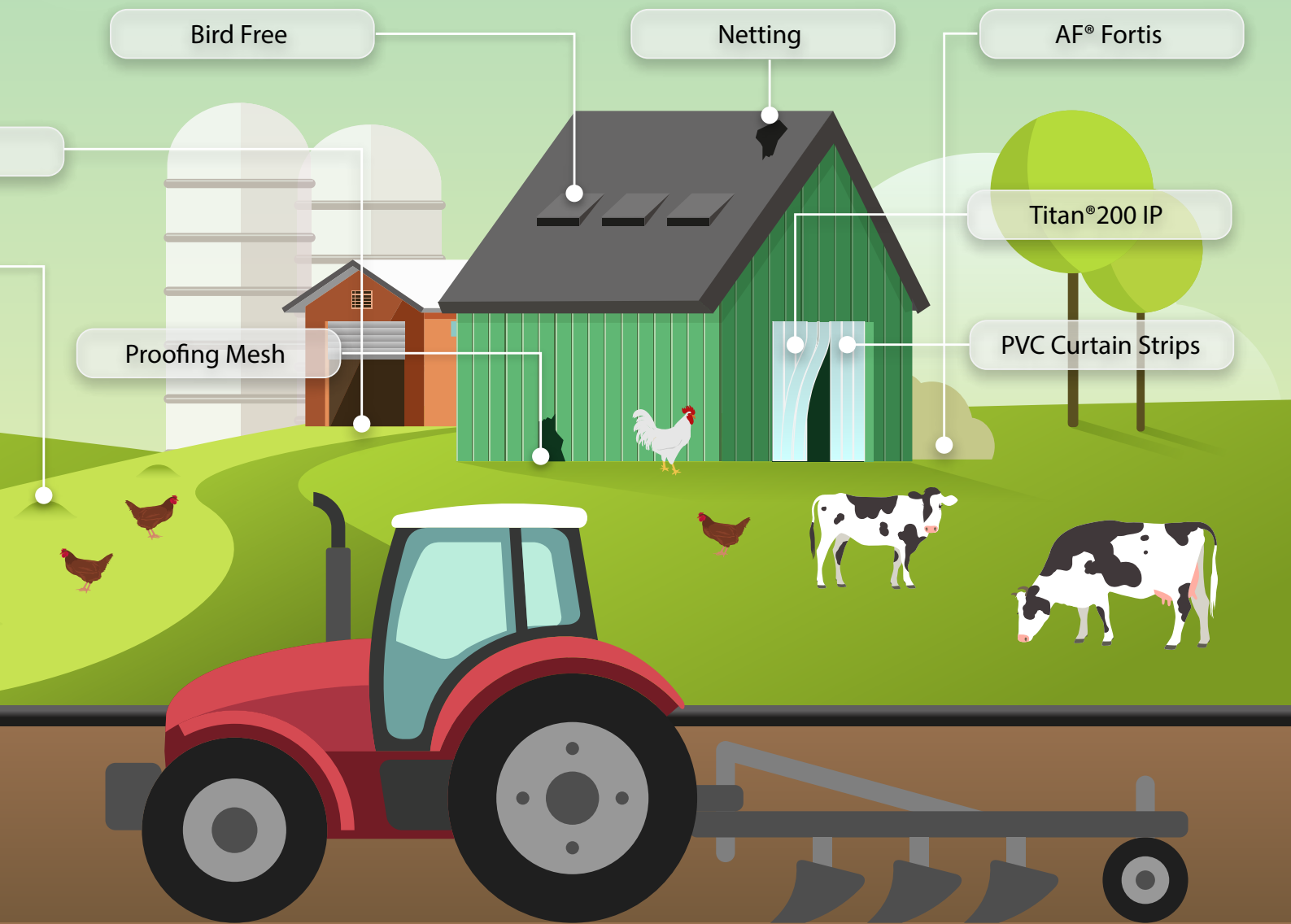




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Supporting a pest free environment.

# Strategic approach helps tackle 25-year Australian cockroach problem

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*Australian cockroaches have been causing a headache for over 25 years at a leisure facility in North England as the warm, damp conditions provide the ideal environment for this unpleasant pest to make itself at home.*





**T**herefore, PCN talked to the pest controller who teamed up with manufacturer technical support to get these Australian cockroaches under control.

#### Australian cockroaches

Richard Moseley, national account and technical manager at Bayer, says Australian cockroaches are an unusual species within the UK and many pest controllers may only see one or two infestations in their whole career.

“Cockroaches are not only unpleasant to look at but also carry a disease risk to the public. They’re known for passing on diseases such as Salmonella and Gastroenteritis,” says Richard.

“Australian cockroaches are notoriously difficult to eradicate, and it can become a costly problem. It requires expert assistance on a regular basis to tackle this problem, as public sightings can lead to catastrophic consequences for the business and this is why we tackled the problem together,” he explains.

#### Industry collaboration

Stewart Cooper from Alpha Pest Control has 23 years’ experience in the industry, but this was his first time tackling them.

“Australian cockroaches are tricky to control, they are one of the largest cockroach species and pretty big when it comes to insects but they move very quickly. They also have irregular feeding habits making them difficult to target and because they breed so rapidly, it can be incredibly hard to get on top of populations,” says Stewart.

“Because I hadn’t come across them before I contacted Richard Moseley from Bayer to get further advice. We both went out to visit the site to assess the problem and worked out a strategic plan to help us achieve successful and long-lasting control,” he explains.

#### A holistic approach

“Integrated pest management is vital and while there are limited cultural controls that could be implemented, it was important to get the staff on board. I encouraged them to keep the area clean and proof any entrance points to the building to help reduce activity,” adds Stewart.

“It was clear when I visited the site that cockroach baiting points alone were not going to control this issue, so we used them alongside liquid insecticides as part of an integrated approach.

“We rotated insecticides to maximise control and decided to try K-Othrine® Partix™, a new broad-spectrum insecticide which was in the trial phase at the time. This new product gave us a competitive advantage against the pest in a challenging environment and shortly after the application we received 95% control,” he explains.

“Usually, in this environment a large number of applications would be needed, to keep cockroaches at bay, however the long residual effect of Partix™ technology meant application frequency was reduced, saving time and money.”

He explains that he’s now been working with the owners at this facility for three years, and this summer there’s been no call outs.

“I believe this is down to a fully integrated approach alongside paying close attention to detail,” adds Stewart.

He explains that it is important not to take your eye off the ball and to make sure measures are taken to keep them under control. “To help reduce the risk of reoccurring issues eliminate food sources and reduce moisture levels where possible. It’s also important to prevent access to buildings and remove areas where they can harbour.”

Richard explains that it’s important to recognise the success of controlling these Australian cockroaches is down to a combination of top-level pest control and a strategic approach.

“Stewart built a great relationship with the staff as well as visiting the site on a weekly basis to keep the problem at bay. He continues to do so, and the owners are extremely happy with the results,” he concludes.

**“We have been using Alpha Pest control for several years now and they’ve done a great job of keeping infestations under control. In fact, since using K-Othrine® Partix™ we have seen even less activity.**

**“Stewart who has been covering our building has done a great job for us keeping them under control,” says general manager at the leisure facility.**



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# Bird Licence consultation

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**Environment Secretary, Theresa Villiers, launched a public survey on the 12th September as part of a planned review of general licences to manage wild birds in England.**

**T**he aim of the review is to ensure the licensing system is robust, striking the right balance between the protection of wild birds and the activities people, such as landowners and farmers, need to carry out for specific purposes, such as protecting livestock or crops and for conservation purposes. Defra is leading this review in close partnership with Natural England.

As a first step, Environment Secretary Theresa Villiers has launched a 12-week online survey to gather evidence on the control that stakeholders consider is required under general licence. This is one strand of the review, with a series of stakeholder workshops also planned to run in parallel.

Environment Secretary Theresa Villiers has reportedly said:

“I completely understand the scale of interest in this important issue and the real concern of users who need to have confidence in the licensing system.

“Working closely with Natural England, this survey is an important step in our wider review of general licences.

“I want to encourage users and other interested parties to take part in the process. This will help us ensure our licences strike the right balance between the protection of wild birds and the important actions users need to take to protect livestock or crops, and for conservation purposes.”

The review was announced earlier this year when Defra issued three new short-term licences to control wild birds to conserve wild birds and flora or fauna (WML GL34); preserve public health or public safety (WML GL35); and prevent serious damage to livestock, foodstuffs for livestock, crops, vegetables, fruit, growing timber, fisheries or inland waters (WML GL36).

The survey will focus on the purposes covered by these three general licences. All information submitted will be considered alongside evidence received during Defra’s shorter call for evidence held in Spring 2019, which highlighted some areas where evidence is currently lacking. This survey therefore builds on that call for evidence, asking for more specific information to feed into the development of a future licensing system.

In parallel with the survey, Defra and Natural England will be conducting a series of workshops with interested groups in the autumn, covering particular topics such as activity on protected sites.

Natural England’s interim chief executive Marian Spain said:

“Our aim has always been to ensure that there is a robust licensing system in place which takes into account the needs of people and wildlife.

“We look forward to continuing to work closely with Defra and with stakeholders and users on the ground to help achieve this.”

## BACKGROUND

- On 25 April 2019, following a legal challenge by Wild Justice, Natural England revoked three general licences which enabled users to kill or take certain species of wild birds (GL04, 05 and 06).
- The general licences subsequently issued by Defra on 14 June (GL34, 35 and 36) were designed to give certainty to users while the longer term general licensing requirements were reviewed.
- This review of the three general licences, in partnership with Natural England, aims to ensure that the general licensing regime is robust and meets user needs. Building on the responses received during the brief call for evidence into general licences in May 2019, a wider and longer period of consulting and engaging stakeholders is an essential part of this review.









# PCN

Dinner

# Carnival Party

*PCN Dinner - Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019*

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£750 per table (+vat)  
10 people per table**

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# Know your frenemy!

## Giant House Spider (*Eratigena species*)

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In focus is the Giant house spider (*Eratigena gigantea*). These are the large spiders you might find stuck in the bath or pitter patter across your living room floor at night time. The larger of the species is the female. The males are smaller and have large bulbous pedipalps. If you want to get close enough to look, you can easily sex them.

### Why are they frenemies? (Friend / enemy)

The reaction to house spiders ranges from mild irritation to absolute fear, they are in fact doing a job inside our homes. They will prey on insects and all they are really doing when you see them in your house is attempting to find a mate. They are very reluctant to bite and will try to hide away instead, a gentle giant if you will. The female body can get as big as 18mm, plus proportionally sized long legs.

They are in fact funnel web weavers, laying in wait inside the funnel for prey to come along, get tangled in the flat web of silk and then run out to capture their prey. The main function of their venom is concurrent with most spiders, subdue the prey and liquify the insides. The spider will grab its prey and hold it with its pedipalps, whilst using its fangs to inject the venom into the insect. The venom liquifies the internal soft tissues so that the spider can suck out the tasty high protein soup – leaving the insect cuticle empty. Various figures exist, but the spider can consume around 20 percent of their body weight a day (if they wanted to, often they go weeks without food!). If it's there, they will eat it. This is a large number of insects!

It is very important to remember that it's very rare to get a bite from this spider, they are very scared of you! Each female will have a 'nest' of around 60-70 spiderlings, but they are known to eat each other too, so have a high mortality rate.

### What other spiders could be in the house?

Well, there are plenty, but it wouldn't be fair to miss out the latest on the list with regard to spiders. The false widow has become infamous and a seemingly newsworthy addition to our shores (even though they have likely been in the UK for a long time, we just didn't notice them too much!). As featured way back in PCN 92, the false widow spider (*Steatoda nobilis*) could inflict a nasty bite similar to a painful wasp sting and in very rare cases progresses to a fully infected weeping welt.

They are still of low risk to humans. Again, the propaganda associated with false widows is not helped by its name, which is very similar to deadly cousin the Black Widow spider. Once again, the experts tell us that this spider will only bite when threatened or attacked. If you do get bitten and feel unwell then always contact a medical professional for advice. It has been reported that sensitive individuals react to the venom which can cause fever, generally feeling unwell, localised pain and radiating pain from the bite.

### Treat or not to treat?

It is recommended to leave spiders alone, they are more terrified of us than we are of them. They are very unlikely to bite unless they are provoked. However, if treatment is absolutely necessary, an authorised product with spiders on the label is essential. Many of the commonly used insecticides have spiders on the label but as always, its paramount to check. It is also worth recommending high levels of hygiene, particularly vacuuming in all the small spaces in the home (between boxes, behind furniture, any areas that are undisturbed and corners are all favourite hang outs for the house spider). And if you find one in your bath tub the recommended way for removal is an empty glass and a piece of card to remove the individual outside to carry on its happy life.

*With special thanks to Dr Geoff Oxford and also the British Arachnological Society.*











# Molecular mesh entrapment of arthropods: a resistance-breaking and novel technique

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The introduction of novel products for insect control is not something that the UK pest control industry sees very often. When this happens it is particularly exciting, especially when new developments can be used to deal with highly resistant pest populations. With some excitement Pest Control News reports on the introduction of a 'molecular mesh' / 'sprayable entrapping' product, for insect control, described as a resistance-breaking and novel technique that causes external immobilisation of target species.



### ‘Molecular mesh’

Crucially the ‘molecular mesh’ works purely by physical means (by external immobilisation) and, as confirmed by the Health and Safety Executive, falls outside of the definition of biocidal products and therefore the requirements of the Biocidal Products Regulations. What this means is that the industry has access to a flexible product allowing treatment against a broad range of arthropod pests across many areas of use.

### External immobilisation

Based on a cross-linking network structure of organo-modified siloxane ‘All-in-Web’ technology, this new option, in UK public health pest control, needs to be coarse sprayed directly or fogged directly (topically) to target insects and other arthropods to immobilise them. The broad-spectrum mode of action of the fully-permeable cross-linked network structure is widely effective, against resistant populations of crawling and flying insects, and the flexibility of being able to use different dilution rates aids effectiveness. The physical external immobilisation mode of action will be especially useful alongside traditional insecticides, particularly when dealing with highly resistant populations of bedbugs, as part of a resistance management strategy.

The modern climate is one of reducing risks and the non-residuality of All-in-Web technology is in line with this, as well as the physical mode of action, versus residual insecticides that act on the nervous system.

### ‘All-in-Web’ technology: mode of action – how does it work?

With a naturally skeptical eye, PCN wants to know how All-in-Web technology works, i.e. are insects simply immobilised without dying? If that’s the case, surely the effects of being stuck in one spot would wear off and the insects are ‘back to life’? This isn’t the case. Complete immobilisation occurs immediately, or in minutes, and death follows in a matter of minutes, sometimes hours and there is no recovery related to resistance.

### Target pests

Having already highlighted the broad-spectrum effects against flying and crawling insects and other arthropods, it is worth re-stating that bedbugs are a main target of the ‘molecular mesh’ / ‘All-in-Web’. It has been applied to field-resistant strains of bedbugs, from London, with successful results. Other targets include cockroaches, spiders, ants, flies & mosquitoes and stored product insects.

### Flexibility

A variety of insects and other arthropods can be treated, and efficacy data exists for a range of species. Target species listed on the label have been tested against, which means reassurance regarding effectiveness. On that note, data regarding fleas has recently been generated and the product can be used against them.

This flexibility regarding target pests, seen to be hugely beneficial, is refreshing as the trend with product labels for traditional insecticides is for the list of species to be trimmed back due to regulatory hurdles. Other trends are for the labels of traditional insecticides to be further restricted by removing key areas of use, or, for some products to be withdrawn completely due to the stringent requirements of authorisation under the BPR. To have access to products that work purely by physical means lessens the chances of any surprises and is certainly a relief.

### Use in other regions

Although new to the UK, products with a fully-permeable 3D cross-linking network structure (of organo-modified siloxane ‘All-in-Web’ technology) have been used effectively in Poland, Belgium and the Czech Republic and in various animal health and agricultural settings.

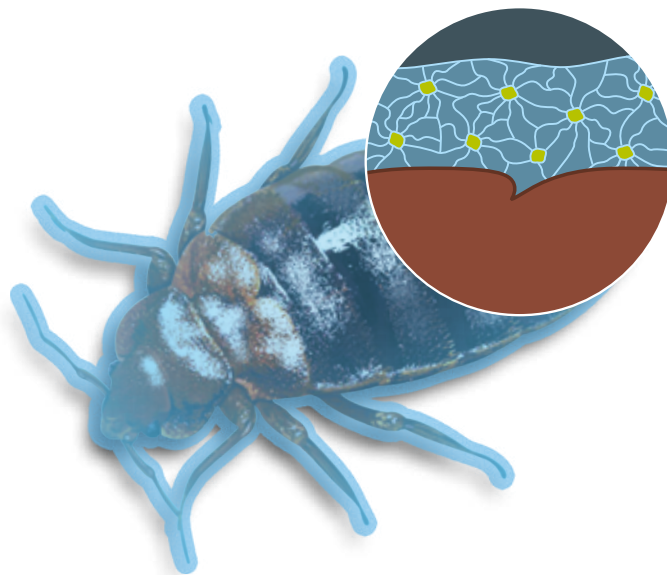
### Immobilisation times

There is good data for mosquitoes, showing complete immobilisation after 15 minutes, 75% kill (mortality) 3 hours after treatment and 100% kill 36 hours after treatment. Importantly, feeding behaviour of mosquitoes is inhibited immediately.

Regarding bedbugs, when applied directly at a 0.1% dilution, 95% of individuals of a pyrethroid-resistant strain were knocked-down (immobilised) immediately. After 24 hours, 98% of the bedbugs were still knocked-down (immobilised) with a 95% kill (mortality) after 48 hours.

### Areas of use

The areas of use are many and varied, both indoors and outdoors. These include the food industry, warehouses, hotels, domestic premises, agricultural sector, waste sites and more.



In hotels and domestic premises, ‘All-in-Web’ / ‘molecular mesh’ products are recommended to be used for the treatment of resistant populations in difficult to access locations e.g. cracks and crevices for bedbugs. When applying for bedbug control, the entire infested/affected area including cracks, crevices, and any location where insects gather e.g. mattresses, bed frames, head boards, upholstered furniture should be treated. A characteristic of ‘All-in-Web’ / ‘molecular mesh’ technology is that the product spreads over a treated surface, ‘tracking down’ any hidden insects.

Timing of application is important for flying insects. It is ideal to apply topically in the evening when insects (especially flies) are resting on surfaces.

When used outdoors for mosquitoes, apply the formulation to mosquito resting locations (building structures, small trees, bushes etc.)

With the food industry and stored product insect control in mind, the product can be used in the presence of stored products and no waiting or withdrawal periods are required.

### Application methods

Varying dilution rates of 1ml to 20ml in 1 litre of water are possible, depending on the situation. Applied as a fine or coarse spray through a variety of sprayers e.g. hand-held pneumatic sprayers, foggers and misters is effective. Suitability of application through a true ULV machine is being evaluated while general fogging / misting is permissible.

### Product characteristics

The good mobility of the product is beneficial, allowing some movement into cracks and crevices, contributing to the swift and even spreading over surfaces and insects.

Other observations are a slight odour of gloss paint when the concentrate bottle is open but almost no odour when diluted with water. The colour of product is clear and while the concentrate is slightly more viscous than water, the diluted preparation has a consistency almost identical to water. Feedback on use is that it is easy to mix with no settling out observed, dries at similar rate to water and no staining has been observed on carpets, mattresses or wooden board. As with any product, spot test on an inconspicuous area if unsure. Protective gloves and eye protection should be worn by the operator.

### Key points

In summary, additional and flexible options for insect control are always welcome, especially when products are:

- Physical in their mode of action
- Exempt from BPR requirements
- Broad and flexible in the range of target pests and areas of use
- Useful in managing resistance, especially in troublesome bedbug jobs
- Able to be used in the presence of stored products
- Non-residual with no waiting / withdrawal period
- Non-toxic residues
- Non-flammable

Although not a ‘silver bullet’ it is anticipated that ‘molecular mesh’ technology for arthropod control, in conjunction with other methods, will become an important part of the armory of forward-thinking pest control operators.

# RODENTS:

## Sense and sensibility



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This is the third article in our senses mini-series. The last sense we are going to look at in detail is hearing. Rats most certainly fall into the category of the top ten for 'The animals with the best hearing' ratings.

**T**he size of the rodent ear varies greatly from species to species, with the largest ear belonging to the Jerboa (*Allactaga tetradactyla*), a fascinating desert dweller with huge pinna (the flappy bit!).

Rodents can hear a range of sounds that go way beyond our own. High frequencies are often used to communicate with each other in the colony and also intruders. Perceptible sounds to rodents fall within the range from 200 Hz to 80 or 90 kHz. As a comparison the human hearing range is 20 Hz-20 kHz, so the upper limit goes far beyond our range of hearing.

With a fantastic hearing range this makes hearing one of the most advanced senses that rats and mice possess. Without a doubt the rodents know we are there before we know that they are there!

There has also been lab-based research in America investigating the high-pitched clicks and squeaks mice make, which are far too high for our ears to hear. Researchers discovered that male mice serenade an attractive female mouse, based on her urine triggers. He affectionately sings to the female to charm her.

### *How do we manipulate this for pest management?*

#### **Ultrasonic devices?**

Ultrasound starts at around 20kHz, beyond a typical young adult hearing range, so we certainly cannot hear it, but rodents can. Current peer-reviewed scientific research shows that commercially available ultrasonic devices don't work.

There is however, ongoing research into very specific frequencies used for specific pests, which is promising. Anecdotal reports from pest controllers are mixed in opinion. In general, they work for a short time. There has been some novel use of ultrasonic devices, with the use of a timed plug to modulate the device with an intermittent on/off cycle. This does appear to have worked for a longer period. The rodents may simply get used to the noise and will learn that it's not going to harm them. The jury is still out on their effectiveness.

Beyond being super silent, when stalking rodent prey, there may not be much else we can do to overcome this 'super sense' gifted to rodents by nature.

### *Could super hearing be used to increase attraction to traps and baits?*

There has been research into using the sounds rats make (of a particular frequency) to attract the rats. A specific frequency of 50 kHz was used both naturally generated and recorded and also simulated (neither made any difference to the resultant behaviour). Rats use this particular frequency when communicating socially with each other, some rats in the trials even called back in response to the playback sound. The most interesting and important part of this is that the sound acted to 'induce

behavioural activation and approach responses'\* attracting the rats. In the future could we see traps/boxes playing ultrasounds to attract rats? A frequency of 22 kHz is usually used by the rat when feeling sad or anxious and therefore it's a distress cry.

### *And lastly.... eyesight*

Rodents possess limited eyesight, it is not one of the primary senses in rodents. They are adapted to nocturnal activities with all of their other senses heightened and much more developed, this negates the use of eyesight to a large extent. Eyesight is so diminished that it is thought that they are pretty much colour blind. They may be able to see certain colours such as green and blue but in muted tones.

Their eyesight is described as dichromatic – in layman's term, they can see muted colour tones. In comparison, human vision is trichromatic, all down to the rod and cone pigmentations present in our eyes. Rodents cannot see infrared, so do not have 'night vision', they are using the other senses to compensate.

It is difficult to test rodent eyesight. In laboratory trials it is a challenge to define which stimulus the rodent is responding to, whether a colour cue or another type of stimulus, for example something external.

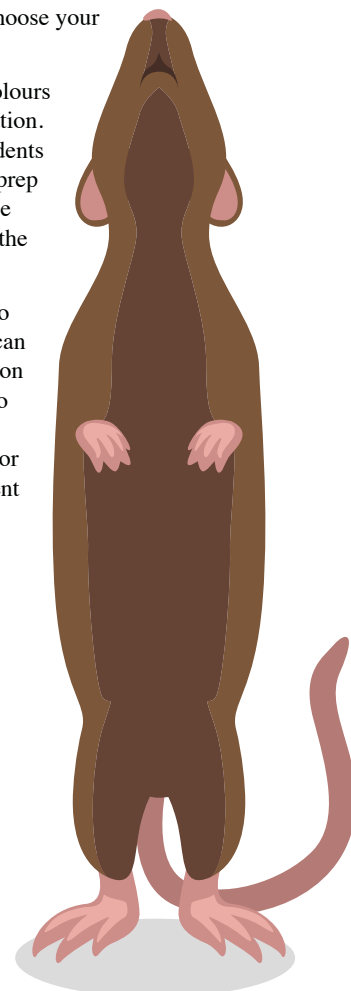
### *How can this be manipulated in pest management?*

Most bait boxes and equipment are dark or grey in colouration, so the rodent vision would provide limited perception of these colours at nighttime. However, if a black glue board was put on a light coloured surface, the rodent may be able to see it and vice versa with a pale board on a dark surface. So, choose your glue board colour carefully!

There have also been trials\* into which colours are received better for rodenticide preparation. Green and yellow are perceived by the rodents as grey – and the grey colour rodenticide prep had good uptake. Although they cannot see colour they could see tonal differences in the colours which could have an effect.

In conclusion, the future may hold a key to using sound attractants or deterrents. We can certainly use the knowledge of rodent vision to further tailor our choice of equipment to the environment to which the rodents are habituated. All considerations especially for that particularly challenging ongoing rodent job.

\*All details, sources of information and research can be acquired by contacting 'technical@pestcontrolnews.com'.







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**DANGER  
ASBESTOS**



**DANGER  
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# Health & Safety- Are you asbestos aware?

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Asbestos related disease is thought to have peaked, with the expected decline in new cases to follow a downward trend going forward. This should not detract from being asbestos aware. Asbestos is very much present in our work establishments and sometimes remains in homes too.

## **Background**

Asbestos is a brilliant product with lots of beneficial properties. It was used to strengthen ceramics, it is a good fire retardant (used for pipe lagging, insulation, ceilings, drywalls, flooring, roofing, tiles, furniture, fire blankets, brake discs, heat protective ironing plates, the list goes on). The downside of the 'wonder' product? Its toxicity and the lag time it can take for symptoms to develop. Asbestos is still killing approximately 5000 workers each year (UK figure, published by the Health and Safety Executive). Over the last 50 years deaths have steeply increased due to asbestos exposure. Current levels are now expected to plateau till the end of the decade, then should decrease. This is predicted but concurrent with the time lag since the 1980's. 1985 saw a ban in the UK on two types of asbestos (amosite and crocidolite). And, The Asbestos (Prohibitions) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 came into force on November 24, 1999 seeing the end to legal use of all asbestos in the UK (Chrysotile was the last type to be banned). These three most common types of asbestos are also known as brown, blue and white asbestos (amosite, crocidolite and chrysotile respectively).





# DANGER ASBESTOS



# DANGER ASBESTOS

**T**he problem occurs when the asbestos is damaged, the loose fibres become airborne and could then potentially be breathed in. The asbestos fibres lodge deep in the lung tissues and then cause significant health problems years later. The body is not able to remove the fibres or break them down. The resultant lung problems can vary, but include asbestos related lung cancer (mesothelioma), plural (lung membrane) thickening, plural plaques, asbestosis (pulmonary fibrosis due directly to asbestos).

Astonishingly asbestos is still in use in other countries. Namely *'Asia, Eastern Europe, South America, while strict controlled use in is still permitted in the USA and Canada'\*.*

#### **How do you gain awareness?**

Training. There are many different platforms that provide good asbestos awareness. From face to face training to simple online short courses and refresher courses once you have a level of awareness. There may even be in-house training that your company provides. Some commercial sites and contractor auditing schemes request that contractors have asbestos awareness. Any training or certification should always be updated a minimum of every few years (dependent on validity). This ensures you are up to date with the most current recommendations, statistics and relevant information. There are also graded asbestos courses, for most normal pest control works simple awareness is fine, however should more complex works regarding awareness be required – the training required increases dramatically. Training entirely depends on the work activities involving asbestos. The various categories are non-licensable work (including

notifiable non-licensed work) and licensable works. To reiterate, for general pest control activities, asbestos awareness is all that is needed.

#### **How will awareness help?**

You will be given basic information on what to look for, how to recognise and what to do if you think you have come across asbestos. There are libraries of photos showing asbestos in all its hidden forms as well as the obvious and better-known building materials. Raising a consciousness of it could save further lives as we are more perceptive once made aware that it could be there.

What to do if you think you have come across asbestos? First action is always to STOP. Stop your work activities and seek knowledge from the site. If it's a non-domestic site, they should have an asbestos register which will identify any asbestos. The asbestos containing materials should also carry a label. All asbestos remaining on sites should be sealed and undamaged. All buildings built or refurbished prior to the year 2000 could still contain asbestos. Even domestic premises! The HSE website has some good reference photos for asbestos. <http://www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos/gallery.htm>.

From a pest control perspective, you don't want to be drilling into asbestos containing materials whilst installing proofing or carrying out other pest management works in any aspects of pest control. The advice goes that if you are not sure if a material contains asbestos... 'presume that it does, unless there is strong evidence that it does not'\*. Further HSE information about managing asbestos is available via this link <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg223.pdf>.

#### **Risk Assessment**

If asbestos is found to be present on a site (from the sites asbestos survey) it should be noted on your site-specific risk assessment. Note the location or the fact that there is asbestos present. This will inform anyone else attending that there is asbestos present (or isn't present!) and care should be taken to avoid it and not damage it. Carefully consider the area and the works that are required. Can you carry out your work with out encountering it? Always remember to stop if you are unsure and seek further advice. Your health and safety is the priority.

\*All details, sources of information and quoted material can be acquired by contacting 'technical@pestcontrolnews.com'.



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# 2020 - Preview

**P**PC Live is on the road again! The next stop for the BPCA's one-day exhibition and conference is the Yorkshire Event Centre.

Set in the beautiful, historic Yorkshire Dales National Park, Harrogate, PPC Live is all about giving frontline staff hands-on experiences, and showing off the latest and greatest innovations in the sector.

**When:** Wednesday, 11 March 2020

**Where:** Yorkshire Event Centre, Harrogate, United Kingdom

**Times:** 9am - 4pm

**Here's a sneak preview at what BPCA's got planned so far.**

## OUTDOOR DEMO AREA

Back by popular demand! PPC Live will be getting outside (and not only to take in the beautiful countryside). BPCA will be hosting some practical pest management demonstrations.

PPC Live are teaming up with experts and have some really exciting plans for this area.

### Here's a little taste of what to expect:

- UAVs (drones) demo
- Air gun training
- Practical trapping session
- Working at height equipment

And that's only a sneak preview! Grandstand seating will give you a perfect view of the demonstrations.

## TECHNICAL SEMINAR THEATRE

Our silent technical seminar theatre will have seating for 80 people and will use headphones like PestEx, so you won't miss a single word of the presenters.

Sessions we've already confirmed include 'How to do great site surveys' and 'An insecticide best practice panel'.

Industry experts and PestEx favourites Sharon Hughes from BASF and Alex Wade from Pelgar both have new talks planned for PPC Live.

Dr Matthew Davies from Killgerm will be talking at PPC Live, after his talks at PestEx and BPCA Regional Forums received such good reviews.

The team from the Bat Conservation Trust will be giving us a peek at some of the stuff they've been working on with BPCA. They'll also be launching new training courses, so PPC Live 2020 really isn't to be missed!

## INDOOR DEMO THEATRE

BPCA want to give you the chance to see new ideas and get some hands-on experience while you're at the show. PPC Live is all about how things work and giving you the tools to help you in the field.

BPCA has joined forces with our friends and experts in the industry to showcase ideas old and new.

The indoor demonstration theatre is about giving you the opportunity to interact with practical sessions, led by industry experts. The schedule will be action-packed.

### They've already booked:

- A practical fumigation session
- A guide to effective rodent proofing
- Demonstrations of remote monitoring technologies
- Interactive face mask fitting
- Insect identification workshop

## REGISTRATION OPEN

Any guests that register early receive a bacon roll and hot drink. Don't wait until the last minute to register! [bpca.org.uk/ppclive](http://bpca.org.uk/ppclive)

## WANT TO EXHIBIT AT PPC LIVE 2020?

Not booked your stand yet? Contact Beth at BPCA today to ask about how you can get your products into the hands of technicians and business owners. [beth@bpca.org.uk](mailto:beth@bpca.org.uk)





# BPCA ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THE BEST PEST PHOTOGRAPH

The British Pest Control Association (BPCA) is on a mission to find the best pest photograph of the year and is calling all industry professionals to join in.

A cash prize of £500 will be presented to the individual who captures the perfect image of public health pest control, chosen by a panel of leading experts and members of the BPCA team.

Hosted on the association's social media channels, the aim of the competition is to raise awareness of the significance of the sector and put a spotlight on the people within it.

Ian Andrew, chief executive of BPCA, said: "Pest professionals do an amazing job protecting people from disease and distress.

"We wanted to highlight the important work the pest sector does to protect the nation.

"Our 'Best Pest Pic' photo of the year competition will help celebrate and draw attention to our work."

The photograph – which must be taken in the UK – can be of any public health pest or a pest management professional in action, helping to protect people from infestations.

To enter, competitors can either tweet their image using #BestPestPic2020 or tag the BPCA on Facebook along with the hashtag.

Entries will be shortlisted, and the top ten best pest photographs will be on display in PPC Live 2020 exhibition hall, taking place on Wednesday, 11 March at the Yorkshire Event Centre.

The winning photograph will be announced at the event.

For the full list of rules, as well as the terms and conditions, go to: <https://bpca.org.uk/bestpestpic20>. The closing date for the competition is Friday, 21 February at 3.45pm.

# #BEST PEST PIC 2020

## Pest Control News workshop @ PestTech 2019

**Join us at PestTech for the Pest Control  
News Workshop 12 noon – 1pm**

**Nigel Semmence, Contingency Planning  
and Science Officer, National Bee Unit,  
Animal & Plant Health Agency.**

This highly attended workshop will provide an update on the Asian hornet sightings in the UK.

A presentation will be given by Nigel Semmence, a representative of the National Bee Unit, DEFRA, who is known for his vast knowledge and entertaining style of presenting.

Nigel joined the National Bee Unit (NBU) in 2009 as Regional Bee Inspector (RBI) for Southern region running a team of seven Seasonal bee inspectors (SBIs) delivering statutory inspections and training. Since 2015 Nigel has been the contingency planning and science officer for the NBU with responsibility for developing contingency plans for exotic pests and diseases of honeybees such as the Asian hornet, Small hive beetle and Tropilaelaps mites. Nigel is also involved closely with Defra policy colleagues and stakeholders (BBKA, WBKA, BFA, BBVA, etc) as a member of the Bee Health Advisory Forum.



## NOT TO BE MISSED!



# PESTTECH 2019

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

## Presentation Schedule

### 10.00hrs – 11.00hrs

#### 'Considering bats during the pest control process'

*Jo Ferguson, Built Environment Manager and Becky Wilson, Helpline Manager – Bat Conservation Trust*

Jo has a background as an ecological consultant specialising in bat survey and mitigation. She will outline how bats use buildings, why they are so important in a bats lifecycle and how pest control work may impact bats, including their legal protection. Becky will outline what to do when considering carrying out works where bats are present, including the latest best practice guidance BCT has developed with the pest control industry.

### 11.00hrs – 12.00hrs

#### 'The Duties and Powers of Local Authorities in the UK in Respect of the Control of Public Health Rodents'

*Chris Woodard, independent pest control consultant*

It can be frustrating for those involved in rodent control having achieved control at a customer's premises only to have rats or mice re-infest from neighbouring land or premises beyond your influence or control.

With many councils lacking the expertise in the field of pest control there seems now to be a shortfall in the responsibilities these have a duty to perform.

### 12.00noon – 13.00hrs

#### Pest Control News Workshop - 'Update on Asian Hornets in the UK'

*Nigel Semmence*

A representative of the National Bee Unit, DEFRA, will give an update on the most recent Asian hornet sightings. Nigel's knowledge and entertaining style of presenting makes this workshop one not to be missed.

### 13.00hrs – 14.00hrs

#### Non-lethal Ways of Dealing With Feral Honey Bees

*Martyn Belcher and Clive Stewart - self-taught bee removal specialists*

Two pest control technicians who have developed their skills at removing problem colonies of feral honey bees from buildings outline what they have learned and what others need to know in order to deal with them.

### 14.00hrs – 15.00hrs

#### What the Food Industry Expects from Pest Control Contractors

*John Lloyd, Independent Pest Management & Insect Consultancy*

For those pest controllers wanting to move up into 'high end' food industry clients this presentation should give you a good grounding as to what will be expected of you.



## NPTA

tomorrow's association  
for today's technician





6 November 2019

Marshall Arena  
MK Don's

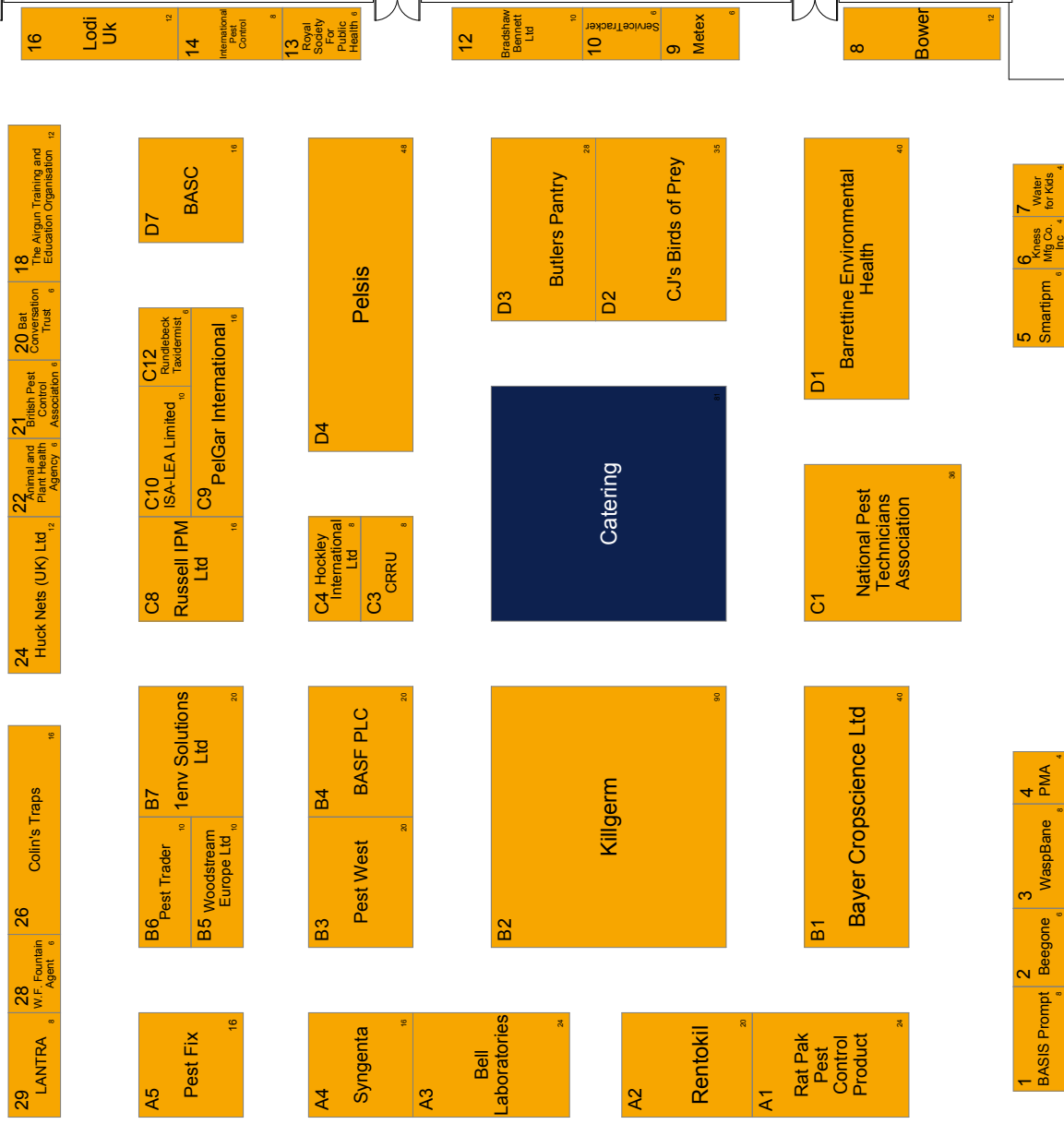
## Exhibitor List

- 1 BASIS Prompt
- 2 Beegone
- 3 WaspBane
- 4 PMA
- 5 Smartipm
- 6 Kress Mfg Co. Inc
- 7 Water for Kids
- 8 Bower
- 9 Metex
- 10 ServiceTracker
- 12 Bradshaw Bennett Ltd
- 13 Royal Society For Public Health
- 14 International Pest Control
- 16 Lodi UK
- 18 The Argun Training and Education Organisation
- 20 Bat Conversation Trust
- 21 British Pest Control Association
- 22 Animal and Plant Health Agency
- 24 Huck Nets (UK) Ltd
- 26 Colin's Traps
- 28 W.F. Fountain Agent
- 29 LANTRA
- A1 Rat Pak Pest Control Product
- A2 Rentokil
- A3 Bell Laboratories
- A4 Syngenta
- A5 Pest Fix
- B1 Bayer CropScience Ltd
- B2 Killgerm
- B3 BASF PLC
- B4 Woodstream Europe Ltd
- B5 Pest Trader
- B6 1env Solutions Ltd
- B7 National Pest Technicians Association
- C1 Hockley International Ltd
- C3 CRRU
- C4 Russell IPM Ltd
- C8 ISA-LEA Limited
- C9 PeiGar International
- C10 Rundbeck Taxidermist
- C12 Barretline Environmental Health
- D1 CJ's Birds of Prey
- D2 Butlers Pantry
- D3 Pelsis
- D4 BASC

## Sales Key

- Available (0m<sup>2</sup>)
- Catering (81m<sup>2</sup>)
- Sold (749m<sup>2</sup>)

Break  
Out  
Area



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ENTRANCE

Issue: 14  
Date: 19 Sep 2019  
The dimensions on this plan have not been  
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## Divorce – is it the end of the blame game?

The Justice Secretary has recently announced that there will be a reform of the current 50-year-old matrimonial law which will enable couples to apply to for a divorce without having to blame the other for the breakdown of the marriage. This has been called for by many family law practitioners and other professionals as a necessity to help reduce the conflict within families upon separation. It is thought that the current system only causes animosity between separating couples from the outset and undermines good parenting relationships which are essential to reduce the emotional impact of the divorce on any children of the family.

If you intend to seek a divorce from your spouse, then consideration will need to be given as to how this can be effectively managed with a view to maintaining good relations with your spouse and to minimising the disruption to any children. This could be done via discussions directly with your spouse if you are on amicable terms, through the mediation process or in correspondence via solicitors who can communicate these difficult issues on your behalf. It is always best to consider how and when the divorce proceedings are started, and a family law solicitor can provide you with further advice in this regard.

At the time of writing the proposed Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Bill to reform to the divorce process has not yet been become law. Therefore, the Petitioner, who applies for a divorce, will still be required to satisfy the only ground for divorce which is that the marriage has broken down irretrievably by relying on, and proving to the court, one of the five following facts: -

1. The respondent (other party) has committed adultery and the petitioner finds it intolerable to live with them. You cannot rely on this fact if you have lived with your spouse for a period of 6 months or more from the date that you found out about the adultery.
2. The respondent has behaved in such a way that the petitioner can no longer reasonably be expected to live with the respondent (known as unreasonable behaviour);
3. The respondent has deserted the petitioner for a continuous period of at least two years immediately before the petition is submitted to court.
4. The parties to the marriage have lived apart for a continuous period of at least two years before the petition is submitted to court and the respondent consents to a decree of divorce being granted. Consent of the respondent is usually obtained first, and in writing;
5. The parties to the marriage have lived apart for a continuous period of at least five years before the petition is submitted to court.

If the draft Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Bill comes into force as proposed the reforms will mean that the sole ground for divorce will remain the irretrievable breakdown of the marriage but it will replace the requirement to rely on a 'fault based' petition (at points 1 to 3 above) or a 'separation' petition (such as points 4 and 5 above). Instead there will be a new requirement for the Petitioner to provide a statement of irretrievable breakdown and no further evidence will be required. In addition, the proposed changes to the divorce process are said to introduce a new minimum period of 20 weeks between the start of the proceedings and the opportunity to proceed to Decree Nisi being granted. The existing six-week period between Decree Nisi and Decree Absolute to end the marriage will be retained. These two

timescales within the proposed changes will mean that a divorce cannot be finalised in less than six months.

The lapse of time and delay could mean that there is a change in the financial arrangements of either you or your spouse which may impact on the financial claims you could make against them. Even if you do not intend to make a financial claim against your spouse legal advice is always recommended at an early stage as you may wish to separate the financial ties between you and your spouse which does not happen automatically when your marriage is brought to an end. Consideration should have been ideally given to a pre-or post-nuptial agreement but often isn't and as such couples then must rely on negotiating their financial settlement or ultimately leaving that decision to the courts.

Similarly, it is also important to get advice in relation to any arrangements for the children on separation. The court will give paramount consideration to the welfare of the children concerned when making any decision as to their upbringing such as which parent a child is to live with, what time the child should spend with both parents, schooling and education, health needs etc. The court will only become involved in such decisions if an application is made to the court usually by one parent to ask that the court determines an issue which the parents are unable to agree on between themselves.

Should you require any advice or assistance in respect of separation, divorce, splitting the house and money, the arrangements for the children or an update in respect of the divorce reform changes then please contact the author Pascale Adam at Milners Solicitors on [pascale.adam@milnerslaw.com](mailto:pascale.adam@milnerslaw.com) or on **01423 530 103**.



# Your guide to the pest control 2019/20 TRAINING DATES



To book visit: [www.killgerm.com](http://www.killgerm.com)

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](http://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](mailto:training@killgerm.com).

## 2019 TRAINING DATES

### Killgerm Principles of Rodent Control

5th November 2019, Perth  
12th November 2019, Ossett  
26th November 2019, Bristol  
3rd December 2019, Ossett

### Insect Control

13th November 2019, Ossett  
27th November 2019, Bristol

### Safe Use of Pesticides

14th November 2019, Ossett  
28th November 2019, Bristol

### Selling & Marketing for Bird Control

20th November 2019, Ossett

### Sales Skills Course

13 & 14th November 2019, Bracknell

### IOSH Working Safely in Pest Control

21st November 2019, Ossett

### Starting Out in Pest Control

12th November 2019, Bracknell

### Trapping Techniques

20th November 2019, Killamarsh

### Safe Use of Air Weapons for Bird Control

30th October 2019, Bisley



To book visit: [www.pestsolution.co.uk](http://www.pestsolution.co.uk)

### November: 18th to 27th RSPH Level 2 Award & Level 2 Certificate:

Day 1 – 18th November 2019  
Day 2 – 19th November 2019  
Day 3 – 20th November 2019  
Day 4 – 21st November 2019  
Day 5 – 22nd November 2019  
Day 6 – 25th November 2019  
Day 7 – 26th November 2019  
Day 8 – 27th November 2019

### January RSPH Level 2 Award and Certificate in Pest Management:

13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 20th and 21st

Exam – Wednesday 22nd

### February RSPH Level 2 Award and Certificate in Pest Management:

10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 17th and 18th

Exam – Wednesday 19th



To book visit: [www.bpca.co.uk](http://www.bpca.co.uk)

### Using Rodenticides Safely

11/11/2019 North

### Practical Vertebrate Trapping

12/11/2019 North

### Practical Insect Control

13/09/2019 North

### Starting and Managing Your Own Pest Management Business

18/11/2019 Derby

### General Pest Control - Level 2 Award in Pest Management

24/11/2019 Stafford

### Certificate in Bird Management

14/11/2019 North

### Bedbug Control

04/12/2019 North

### Insect Identification

03/12/2019 North

### Practical Airgun use for Pest Management

12/11/2019 Wiltshire

### RSPH Level 2 Award in Safe Use of Rodenticides

19/11/2019 London  
06/12/2019 Eastern Counties  
10/12/2019 Norths

### Level 3 Award in the Safe Use of Fumigants for the Management of Invertebrate Pests

20/11/2019 London  
11/12/2019 Eastern Counties  
18/12/2019 Norths



To book visit: [www.pestsolution.co.uk](http://www.pestsolution.co.uk)

### November 14, 2019 Practical Vertebrate Trapping

### November 15, 2019 Practical Wasp Control

### November 21, 2019 RSPH Level 2 Award in the Safe Use of Rodenticides

### November 28, 2019 RSPH Level 2 Award/Certificate in Pest Management

Day 1 – 28th November 2019  
Day 2 – 29th November 2019  
Day 3 – 5th December 2019  
Day 4 – 6th December 2019  
Day 5 – 12th December 2019  
Day 6 – 13th December 2019

Exam – 20th December 2019

### December 20, 2019 RSPH Level 2 Award in Pest Management

### December 20, 2019 RSPH Level 2 Certificate in Pest Management

### January 16, 2020 Level 3 Award in Pest Management -

Day 1 – 16th January 2020  
Day 2 – 17th January 2020  
Day 3 – 27th February 2020

### January 30, 2020 RSPH Level 2 Award/Certificate in Pest Management

Day 1 – 30th January 2020  
Day 2 – 31st January 2020  
Day 3 – 6th February 2020  
Day 4 – 7th February 2020  
Day 5 – 13th February 2020  
Day 6 – 14th February 2020

### February 28, 2020 RSPH Level 2 Award in Pest Management

### February 28, 2020 RSPH Level 2 Certificate in Pest Management

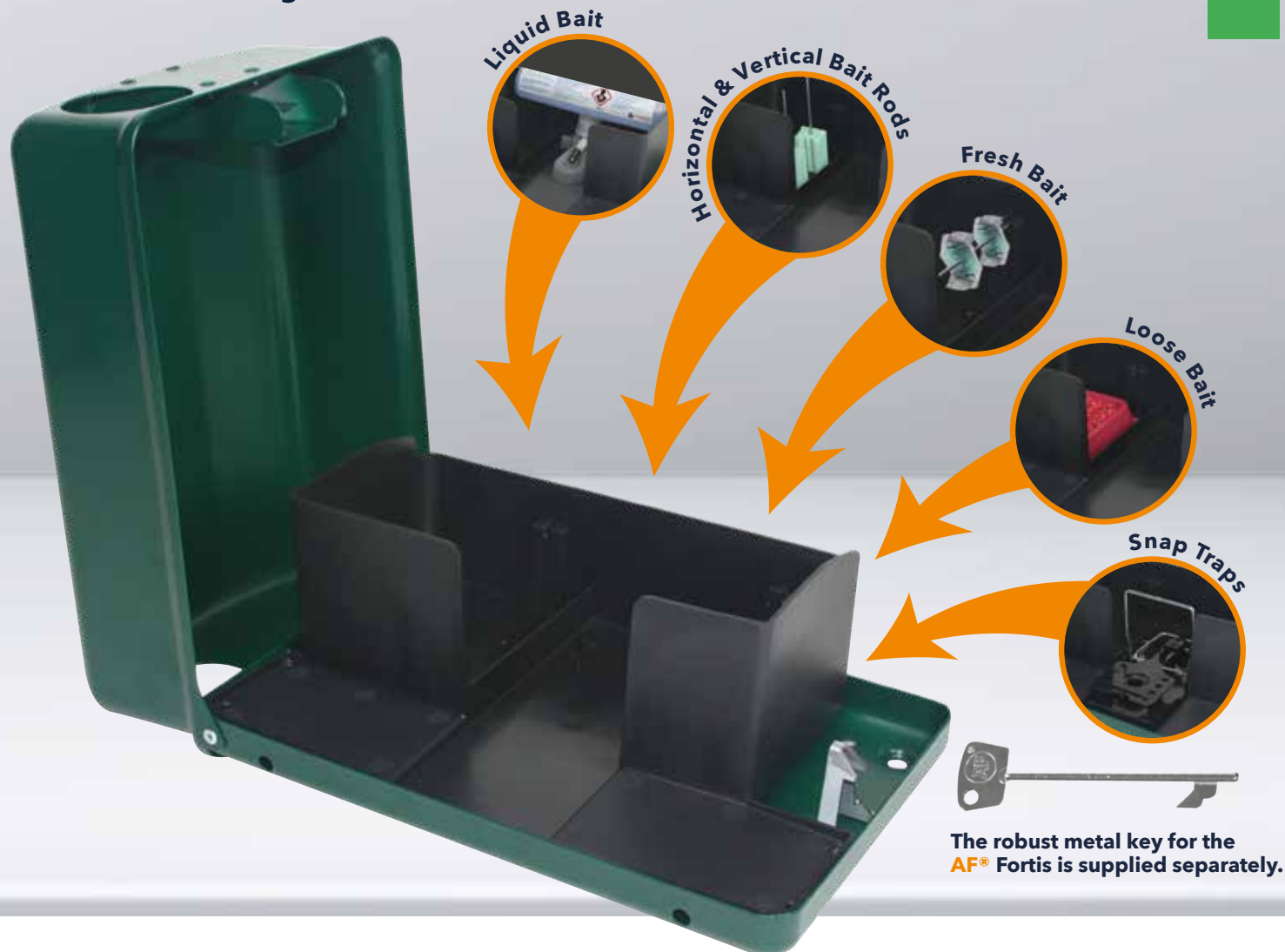


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