

pest

The independent UK pest management magazine

A bit of a dust-up!

Issue 35
September & October 2014

Watch the birdie!
Licences revised



Ladies first – BBC2
film *The Ladykillers*



Remember, remember
the 5th of November



Watch and learn – tips
for rodent monitoring



Need a choice of highly effective bait for all rat and mouse situations?

NEOSOREXA® SOREXA®



www.pestcontrol.basf.co.uk

The complete multi feed rodenticide range:

- High potency all-round multi feed rodenticides
- Best researched bait types for every situation
- Delivering the lowest saturation baiting cost

Enabling the most effective solutions to your pest problems.

 **BASF**
The Chemical Company

www.pestcontrol.basf.co.uk

BASF Plc, PO Box 4, Earl Rd, Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle, Cheshire, SK8 6QG Tel: 0161 488 5355 Email: pestinfo@basf.com

Neosorex® contains difenacoum. Use biocides safely. Always read the label and product information before use. Neosorex® is a registered trademark of BASF.

Editorial contacts:

Editor & publisher: **Frances McKim**

Associate editor & publisher: **Helen Riby**



Helen Riby Frances McKim

Technical advisory board

Dr Moray Anderson Clive Boase
Dr Alan Buckle Paul Butt
Prof Chris Feare Rob Fryatt
Adrian Meyer Prof Gai Murphy
Dr John Simmons Richard Strand
Grahame Turner

Aims

As the industry's only independent magazine, **Pest** aims to deliver a mix of unbiased news, impartial advice and topical technical features. We are committed to being as inclusive as possible covering every sector of the pest management industry.

Send us your news

Send your news or views to:

Email: editor@pestmagazine.co.uk

Tel: 01509 233219

Or write to us at:

Pest, Foxhill, Stanford on Soar,
Loughborough, Leicestershire LE12 5PZ
We'd love to hear from you.

Advertisers

Please contact the editor as above or visit our website at

www.pestmagazine.co.uk

The legal stuff

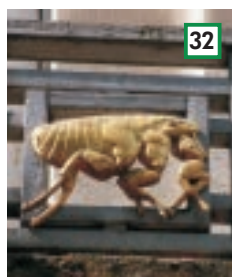
Whilst **Pest** is produced with great care, the publishers cannot accept any liability for inaccuracies or errors herein. Nor can **Pest** accept any responsibility for claims made in advertisements nor for any results or misadventures experienced from using the products advertised.

© **Pest** magazine 2014. All published material remains the copyright of the publisher. No part of this magazine may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form without prior permission of the copyright holder.

Pest is published by Foxhill Publishing Limited
Registered in England No: 6737319

Printed by PPS Print, www.pps-print.com

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



Contents

Industry news	4
Good news at last for SGARs stewardship	7
People on the move	8
Team LODI take the plunge	9
New National Environmental Health Board takes shape	10
Qualifications shake-up	11
Bird licence changes	14
The Ladykillers pest detectives	18
PestTech 2014 preview	21
Hantavirus risk measured	25
Rodent watch – best practice in rodent monitoring	27
Dust in time! – dust mites reviewed	30
London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine	32
A growing commercial resource – arctec	34
The clock is ticking for aluminium phosphide users	36
Products – what's new?	37
Time to vote for your favourite new product	40
New literature	41
Take the Pest Test	41
PestEx 2015 countdown begins	43
Diary dates	43

Looking forward to seeing you all

As autumn is now here, its conference and exhibition time once again. We all look forward to PestTech which is always a very busy day – this year it falls on Bonfire Night – so will there be any fireworks? To help you plan your day we have produced our usual preview, but if there is some specific event you wish to attend, it might be wise to double-check the timing before you arrive. These presentations always aim to be very topical, so can often change at the last minute.

In addition to PestTech, we will also be attending the forthcoming trade events in the USA (PestWorld) and in France (Parasitec) so will look forward to meeting many old friends and bringing you details of what's new.

Training takes a high profile in this issue. Pest control has been caught-up in the general shake-up of requirements required by Ofqual – not good news as it adds a new hurdle in the system which has just begun to settle down. To help readers, we have produced on pages 12 and 13 a complete list of all the relevant RSPH qualifications. Also as a reference, we detail (page 15) all the changes, or delayed decisions, which have come about following the consultation process on General and Class licences by Natural England.

Frances Helen

Be first with the news – visit www.pestmagazine.co.uk

Get more news at
www.pestmagazine.co.uk
 where you see
 this symbol

read more
 on the web
WWW

Cherry picker solution

Surrey-based Cleankill Environmental Services called-in a huge cherry picker to help solve a pigeon problem in Croydon. Pigeons were starting to cause a health hazard in the car park at Barratt Residential Asset Management in the New South Quarter. Cleankill surveyor Mark Hobbs explained: "There are two ventilation towers in the park and the pigeons were getting behind them, causing a huge mess. The only way we could access the towers to clean up the mess safely was with a cherry picker." A combination of netting and Bird Free gel was then used to proof the building.



'Use-up' muddle sorted

A grey area in the original wording of the EU Biocides Regulation (EU BPR) has been resolved. The original did not include a phase-out period for existing stocks of biocidal products that were labelled under the old system and not compliant with the new authorisation conditions. These would, in theory, become illegal overnight as soon as the product was authorised under the EU BPR. The UK pointed out the omission and meanwhile has continued to operate its 'old' phase-out system. Now, a new 365-day phase-out period has now been added to the EU BPR. So, for any product authorised in the UK from 1 October 2014 there will be 180 days in which stocks can continue to be sold and a total of 365 days from the authorisation date to use-up the product.

Bell expanding on its 40th anniversary

Bell Laboratories is marking its 40th year in business by purchasing a new site and building an additional shipping and warehousing facility, to provide for future expansion at its base in Madison, Wisconsin, USA.

The new 32-acre parcel of land, located five and a half miles up the road from Bell's corporate headquarters, was purchased in January 2014. It is located on Stack Drive, a new street paying tribute to the man who founded the company in 1974, Malcolm Stack.

With the extra land, Bell's physical holdings, which include corporate offices, research laboratories and manufacturing operations, now total nearly 40 acres – amazing growth considering Malcolm Stack started the business in 1974 operating out of a single rented garage.

To find out more, read our Bell profile in **Pest** issue 18: November & December 2011.



Worst case of birds of prey poisoning

A Norfolk gamekeeper was found guilty on 1 October for the poisoning of at least 11 birds, including ten buzzards and one sparrowhawk.

Allen Lambert, 65, previously a gamekeeper on Stody Estate near Holt, was also found guilty of the possession of pesticides and other items capable of being used to prepare poison baits.

Analysis of the dead birds confirmed that cause of death in at least one buzzard and the sparrowhawk had been due to poisoning from mevinphos, which is a former agricultural pesticide banned from

use in 1993. A search of his storeroom also revealed aldicarb, which has been banned since 2007.

Head of RSPB Investigations Bob Elliot expressed his concern about the incident: "This is the worst case of bird of prey poisoning we are aware of in England and one of the worst ever recorded in the UK."

Alan Roberts, investigative support officer for the National Wildlife Crime Unit, commented on the incident: "We will continue to seek out and prosecute anyone who follows Allen Lambert's style of predator control."

Benelux Pest 2014 looks to the future

Nearly 300 visitors from eight countries came together to attend the sixth Benelux Pest event held on 24 September at the Voortse Valleij, next to golf resort Edda Huzid, Voorthuizen in the centre of the Netherlands.

Running alongside the exhibition was a series of seminars, including a panel discussion which debated the public image of the industry. All agreed that practical pest controllers must do all they can to act and be seen to act professionally.



Panel speakers Left to right: Yvonne van Gorp (KillgermRIWA), Jenno Brookman (Musca), Frank Swinkels (NVPB) CEPA treasurer Frederic Verwilghen and panel chairman, Roland Higgins (CEPA)

Funding won for grain admixture research

Winchester-based, Exosect, has won a competitive bid for grant funding under the first round of UK government's Agri-tech Catalyst fund, administered by the Technology Strategy Board. The focus of the project is to complete the development of the first biological grain admixture for the control of insects and mites in stored grain for the EU. The grain admix technology utilises Entostat, Exosect's proprietary platform technology, to enable the delivery of the entomopathogenic fungi, *Beauveria bassiana*, directly to grain before it is placed in storage.

Mingling with the stars

If you go to see the new Jude Law film, *Black Sea*, due out in December hopefully you won't spot any pigeons.

Back in August 2013, Dave Green of Bird and Pest Solutions, based on the Isle of Sheppey, thought someone was playing a prank on him when he received a call asking him to remove pigeons from a submarine in Chatham.

However, he took the details and visited the site only to discover it was a genuine enquiry. The submarine was actually the set of *Black Sea*, a film featuring a submarine captain (Jude Law) who searches the depths of the Black Sea for a submarine rumoured to be loaded with gold.



Dave took one of his

specially trained birds of prey, Jane, a Harris hawk and successfully removed the pigeons from the submarine. After finishing the bird control work, he was able to spend some time showing the hawk to actors Jude Law, Scoot McNairy and Karl Davies. The film crew were also interested in learning more about the hawk. It was supposed to be a closed set, but when the hawk appeared so did everybody's camera phones!



100 mile Phil – cycling for Children with Cancer

Phil Huggins, director at Wembley-based Bower Products, puffed and panted his way to complete the gruelling course at this year's Prudential 100 mile cycle ride in August to raise funds for Children with Cancer. To date, Phil has raised a very creditable £2,640 – significantly more than the average which stands at £700. "The ride was somewhat of a challenge," admits Phil modestly. "After weeks of glorious weather, we came under attack from hurricane Bertha, which made conditions on the day very unpleasant." Phil wishes to say a big thank you to all those who supported him. If you haven't done so already, it's not too late. Donations can be made at <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/PhilHuggins>

ULV AEROSOL GENERATORS

Made in Germany

„...and it is fogging very well...“



DROPLET SCIENCE - NEXT LEVEL ULV

PROFESSIONAL
PEST MANAGEMENT

LONG-LASTING CONTROL. LONGER LASTING SATISFACTION.

Demand® CS uses state-of-the-art microcapsule technology to provide user-friendly, long-lasting control of all key public health insect pests.

- ▶ Excellent residual action
- ▶ Broad insect pest spectrum
- ▶ Easy to use
- ▶ Cost effective
- ▶ High performance on a wide range of surfaces
- ▶ Fast results

FOR LIFE UNINTERRUPTED™

 **Demand® CS**
Insecticide

syngenta®

USE BIOCIDES SAFELY. ALWAYS READ THE LABEL AND PRODUCT INFORMATION BEFORE USE. Demand® contains lambda-cyhalothrin. Demand®, ICAP technology,™ For Life Uninterrupted,™ the Alliance frame, the Purpose icon and the Syngenta logo are trademarks of a Syngenta Group Company.

© 2013 Syngenta. Syngenta Crop Protection AG, Basel, Switzerland.
Email: ppm.eame@syngenta.com. Web: www.syngentapmp.com

TM



Good news at last for SGARs stewardship



Good news. There has been a breakthrough in the long running saga of Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (SGARs) stewardship. Whilst it is not exactly a green light for the continued use of these products, the lights have definitely now changed from red to amber.

Dr Alan Buckle chair of the Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use (CRRU), who has coordinated the stewardship proposals, said: "HSE has indicated that the stewardship proposals submitted by the Professional Pest Control and Local Authority Sector Group on 19 September are considered to be basically acceptable. HSE is therefore prepared to allow the stewardship approach to the use of SGARs by public health professionals to go ahead."

A formal statement from HSE will be made at a later stage and there will no doubt be 'nits still to be picked' at the consultation stage, but essentially this is a good step in the right direction.

An immediate benefit should be the unlocking of the log jam of product authorisations under the Biocidal Products Regulation (BPR). Whilst a few products made it through the BPR process before the SGARs stewardship situation developed, many others have been stuck in the system awaiting clarification on the approved label wording, covering things like where products can be used – in open areas, around buildings etc – and by whom.

Both the British Pest Control Association (BPCA) chief executive, Simon Forrester, and the National Pest Technicians Association (NPTA) chairman, Iain Turner, have welcomed the news but, both added a cautionary note to their comments.

Iain said: "After so many years of uncertainty about the future of the SGARs, it is a relief to hear that we can continue to use them; for the time being. However, pest controllers should be under no illusions that they can simply carry on as before. In order to reduce the risk that SGARs pose to the environment we are all going to have to significantly change the ways in which we use them – or we will lose them for good. Our role at the NPTA will be to make this transition as easy as possible for our members."

Simon said: "I am very encouraged to see that Government recognises professional pest control as the 'safe pair of hands' for rodenticide stewardship and, in particular, that in order to use these products they are insisting on a Level 2 qualification plus CPD as a demonstration of competence – a benchmark all BPCA servicing members will meet by 1 January 2015. All our sector must work together to keep these vital products available for use – we all have a responsibility to get trained and stay up-to-date."

Professional competence

Dr Buckle told **Pest** that a main feature of stewardship will be that, at the point of sale, people who purchase SGARs labelled 'for professional use only', will need to demonstrate their professional competence.

They will do this by proving that they hold an approved qualification, which means RSPH/BPCA Level 2 Award, or its equivalent, for the professional pest control sector. Other approved qualifications aimed at other user groups are to be developed.

Another key element will be a new Code of Best Practice detailing how rodenticides should be used. Training will be geared to the new Code but there won't be any requirement for specific additional training or qualifications. The Level 2 Award will be the benchmark in our sector.

HSE has also made it very plain that a change of attitude is needed in the way rodenticides are used. Going forward they must be the tool of last resort, not the first solution that pest controllers reach for. There will need to be a hierarchy of decision making on how to tackle a rodent problem with all possible alternatives considered before any rodenticide bait is placed.

One of the key sticking points in the stewardship negotiations has been to do with wildlife monitoring. Throughout HSE has insisted that there must be monitoring in order to measure the benefits of stewardship in terms of measured reductions in residues found in wildlife. To this end, the industry has now agreed to fund a wildlife residue monitoring scheme.

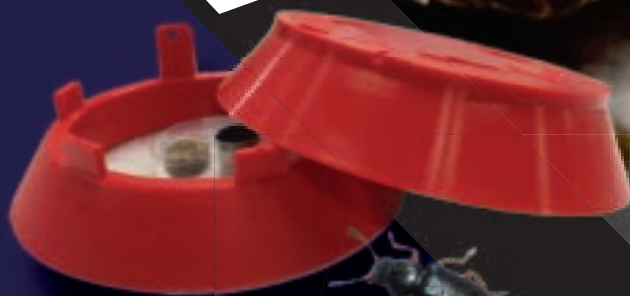
And, as Dr Buckle warns: "The results of this monitoring will be followed very closely by an Oversight Group of several government departments, including HSE and Defra. If they don't see improvements, and quickly, then the question of continued use of SGARs will be back on the agenda."



Left to right: Simon Forrester, Iain Turner and Dr Alan Buckle



NEW



Xlure HHB
Ham & Hide Beetle Trap

Innovation in Pest Control

Contact Us

+44 (0) 1244 281 333 russellipm.com
marketing@russellipm.com



Darran returns to distribution

Joining the newly established team at Essex-based 1env as sales manager is Darran Lebeter. Many readers will know Darran as he spent seven years with SX Environmental Supplies looking after customers and providing technical support.

Most recently Darran has worked for Mitie in the facility management company's pest control business. Here he streamlined order procedures and product consolidation as well as identifying which were the best products to use against which pest. He also acted as a technical referral point for the company's technicians.



Jon back from 'down-under'

After almost five years in New Zealand, fumigation expert, Jon Trevenna has returned to the UK and set-up a fumigation consultancy service in Suffolk called JT Consultancy. Jon will offer consultancy, advice and training in fumigation and alternative treatments to those who use or encounter fumigants in the UK and abroad.

He left for New Zealand in 2009 to head-up Genera, the largest fumigation company in the country. In 2013 he joined NZL Group, a major logistics company to establish a container fumigation service. Prior to that Jon worked for the fumigation division of Igrox for 12 years and was appointed fumigation director in 2004. He is also a past chairman of the BPCA fumigation committee.



Dr Chris Suter retires from RSPH



After 16 years as director of qualifications and certification at the Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH), Dr Chris Suter may have officially retired, but he is keen to point out this is just "the next step in his career."

Chris will be extending the work he currently does with Pearson Education, the educational materials publisher. In addition, he will also continue to work on the development and oversee the implementation of the CEN Standard for Pest Management Services. This is not the first pest control qualification Chris has been involved with as he was instrumental in the merger between the old BPCA and RSPH qualifications in pest control.

Pro-vice chancellorship for Gai



Congratulations go to Professor Gai Murphy who is shortly to become the Pro-Vice Chancellor of the University of Central Lancashire (UCLAN). Since 1989 Gai has worked at Salford University, rising to the position of associate dean in the College of Science and Technology in 2002.

She taught on the environmental health programme and has been an active member of the Centre for Parasitology and Disease Research. She is a member of the National Pest Advisory Panel (NPAP) as well as being on our own **Pest** Technical Advisory Board.

Team LODI take the plunge

On 6 September, Liz Webb, Ross Goodman, Tony Knight and Roger Simpson from LODI-UK bravely faced the challenge of jumping out of a plane to skydive 13,000 ft for Macmillan Cancer Support. Unfortunately, the would-be fifth team member, Hayley Fellows, went down with a sickness bug and couldn't make the trip.



Hayley Fellows

The team had two exceptionally good reasons to make the jump because in 2013, Liz and Hayley were both diagnosed with different forms of cancer. With help and support from Macmillan Nurses, they both came through all their treatment. That was when they decided they wanted to give something back and the skydive idea was born.



Ross Goodman might be having second thoughts!

Commenting after the jump Roger said: "What an amazing experience. I am very proud of our team who took the plunge and raised a lot of money for a great charity! I would also like to make a special mention to Liz and Hayley. Two great ladies with a fantastic zest for life!"

As we went to press the total raised was close to £5,000.



Liz Webb looks to be actually enjoying the experience as, with her professional jump partner, she gets great points for style



Job done. Roger Simpson, Ross and Liz celebrate, but where's Tony? Unfortunately he veered off course and ended up in a field of cows! He was there at the start as inset picture shows





On behalf of the **LODI UK** team I would like to formally thank those in our industry who kindly donated to our skydive for Macmillan cancer support. We've raised a fantastic amount of money for a great cause! An unbelievable and breath-taking day topped off with Tony getting lost on the way down and ending in a field of cows.

If you would like to make a donation please visit www.justgiving.com/lodi

Once again thank you for your generous support!

Roger Simpson – Director LODI UK Ltd








New national board takes shape



David Oldbury of NPAP

Details of the format and objectives of the newly created National Environmental Board (NEHB) were revealed on 8 October by Dave Oldbury, secretary of the National Pest Advisory Board (NPAP) during the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health's (CIEH) conference held in Nottingham.

Dave was delivering the first Jonathan Peck memorial lecture; a lecture which is to become an annual event. So it was very apt that this announcement was made here, as it was first mentioned during the presentations

given after Jonathan Peck's memorial service held in April this year.

NEHB is to be a national board of 22 senior local authority environmental health managers drawn from the regions. Stakeholders will include Public Health England along with a range of government departments and executive agencies such as Defra, HSE, Food Standards Agency, Environment Agency, Building Research Establishment, Department of Health and the Home Office.

Administrative services are to be provided by CIEH and Graham Jukes, CIEH chief executive, is to be the Board's formal accounting officer. Lord Jeff Rooker, former chair of the Foods Standards Agency, is to be its chairman.

Launched on 29 September at the House of Lords, Graham Jukes explained: "NEHB will provide a strategic and operational forum for the delivery of environmental health



functions. It plans to engage directly with government departments to support the effective policy making and delivery of environmental health functions. It also aims to attract and administer central funding resource from government to enable projects of national or regional relevance to environmental health to be achieved."

NPAP is to have a formal role as part of NEHB and will be the representative body for pest control. "This is a wonderful opportunity for the NPAP voice to be heard even further," explained Dave, who went on to say: "To meet this brief of representing the pest control industry, NPAP needs to widen its scope so as to be fully representative. Both the British Pest Control Association (BPCA) and the National Pest Technicians Association (NPTA) will be invited by the CIEH to nominate an individual to represent their respective organisation on the NPAP."

They're here... The UK's **BEST** rodenticide offers

Offer 1 Buy 1 Bag of Roban or Rodex get 5 SX Multiguard rat boxes FREE! Save over £25!	Offer 5 Buy 2 bags of Veritas Wholewheat get 1 bag FREE! Save over £98!
Offer 2 Buy ANY 3 Bags of Roban or Rodex get 1 more bag FREE! PLUS 10 SX Multiguard rat boxes FREE! Save over £100!	Offer 6 Buy 10 packs of SX Rat or Mouse Glueboards get 10 more FREE! Save over £99!
Offer 3 Buy ANY 8 Bags of Roban or Rodex get 3 more bags FREE! PLUS 30 SX Multiguard rat boxes FREE! Save over £300!	Offer 7 Buy 20 Snap-E Rat or Snap-E Mouse traps get 10 more FREE! Save over £28!
Offer 4 Buy ANY 18 Bags of Roban or Rodex get 9 more bags FREE! PLUS 90 SX Multiguard rat boxes FREE! Save over £920!	Offer 8 Buy 10 SX One rat bait stations get 10 more FREE! Save over £40!

SX ENVIRONMENTAL SUPPLIES | Phone: +44(0)1702 524040 | Fax: +44(0)1702 512635 | www.sxenv.com | find us on [facebook](#) | follow us [twitter](#)

PLEASE USE BIOCIDES SAFELY, ALWAYS READ THE LABEL AND PRODUCT INFORMATION BEFORE USE. All photographs are for illustration purposes only and may not be of the model available. Prices are subject to VAT plus delivery. Check rules of delivery when ordering. *OFFER VALID FROM 1st Oct 2014 to 1st November 2014. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers or discounts.



Qualifications shake-up

New rules will impact pest management sector

New rules on who can teach and who can examine have been introduced by the exam and qualifications watchdog, Ofqual. Put simply it means individuals must choose to be either a trainer or an examiner. The theory sounds sensible but there are practical difficulties for a small industry like ours, as one of the members of the **Pest** Technical Advisory Board, Richard Strand of the Pest Information Consultancy, finds out.

In 2012 the *Daily Telegraph* published an article on the subject of exam seminars staged to help teachers improve GCSE and A level results. During these seminars teachers were offered guidance on aspects of the syllabus to emphasise and how certain questions should be answered for students to achieve high marks. In short the perception was that these seminars were offering guidance on how to coach pupils through examinations as opposed to teaching to the syllabus. As a result the examinations and qualifications regulator, Ofqual, launched an investigation into exam seminars leading them to the introduction of a much tighter ruling on the involvement of teachers in the examination process.

So what has this to do with pest control? Quite simply these rulings did not just cover GCSEs and A levels, but are being extended to all approved vocational qualifications too.

This includes the RSPH/BPCA Level 2 Award and Certificate in Pest Control, the Level 3 Diploma in Pest Management, the Level 3 Certificate in Mosquito Management and any other pest-related qualifications that the Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH) may introduce in the future.

Until now trainers could be examiners for RSPH and vice versa. RSPH did, however, insist that anyone teaching a specific course played no part in marking the examinations nor did they have access to the examination paper that would be taken by the students at the end of the course. These rules were strictly applied by RSPH.

As a consequence of Ofqual's investigation, in future the link between instructing and examining will be severed completely. Those involved in teaching any courses leading to RSPH awards may play no part in the development and setting of the



Dr Richard Burton from RSPH has already contacted his examiners. He says that whilst there is no threat to the qualifications structure as sufficient examiners have indicated they will continue, RSPH is seeking to recruit new examiners to fill the gap left by those who have chosen to concentrate on instructing

examinations. Quite simply instructors will not be able to examine and examiners will not be able to teach!

New ruling affects ALL

It is important to stress that this ruling applies to ALL awarding bodies offering Ofqual approved qualifications and also that the subject of 'pest control' has not been singled out, the ruling applies to ALL vocational qualifications.

Understanding the background to this helps us understand the reasons why the rules have been tightened, but what are the consequences for the pest control qualifications scheme? We are a small industry and we do not boast a wealth of capable instructors and examiners.

RSPH's Dr Richard Burton has already put the question to his current examiners. Whilst some see their future as instructors and trainers, by no means all do. Richard emphasises that enough of the current examiners have opted to continue to examine in preference to training so as to ensure that there is no threat to the qualifications structure.

Nevertheless, RSPH will be seeking to recruit new examiners in the near future, to replace those who have departed (see advert on page 43). He sums up the frustrations arising from the changes when he says:

"RSPH is dismayed to have to dispense with a number of our examiners, some of whom have been with us for many years. We can only emphasise that this is not a reflection on the integrity of any of our examiners but a response to a condition that Ofqual has to apply to all awarding organisations."

He continues: "The condition only affects written examinations, so those of our examiners who work as external verifiers, checking that in-house assessors grade their own candidates appropriately, will continue to be able to work for us."

Whilst the reasons for making these changes may be understandable, there are drawbacks too. By severing the links between instructors and examiners there is a

concern that a gulf will open between the 'examining body' on one side and the needs of the trainees and indeed the industry on the other.

New communication channels will need to be opened and existing channels reinforced, to ensure that technical and procedural changes in the field of pest control are adequately reflected in the exam questions themselves and, indeed, the syllabus.

Current changes in the use of SGARs are a good example. How will the new examiner group be able to reflect these changes if it does not have access to the some of the key industry experts? Similarly, will some of the instructors lose touch with the examination syllabus?



RSPH pest management qualifications guide

All of these RSPH qualifications are made up of a number of different units, which are often shared by the different qualifications. So pest controllers who have obtained one RSPH qualification may already hold some of the units that are required for the next step up.

	Unit PM2.1: Vertebrate Pest Management	Unit PM2.2: Invertebrate Pest Management	Unit PM2.3: Health, Safety and Legal Aspects of Pest Management	Unit PM2.4: Techniques for the Management of Vertebrate Pests	Unit PM2.5: Techniques for the Management of Invertebrate Pests	Unit PM2.6: Apply Techniques for the Management of Vertebrate and Invertebrate Pests	Unit PM2.7: Apply the Principles of Health and Safety at Work
Level 2 Award in Pest Management	✓	✓	✓				
Level 2 Certificate in Pest Management	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Level 2 Diploma in Pest Management	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Level 3 Diploma in Pest Management	✓	✓		✓	✓		

The qualifications at Level 2 show a progression in size from Award > Certificate > Diploma. The L2 Award consists of theory units only, the L2 Certificate adds techniques units and the L2 Diploma is extended further by testing the candidate's ability to apply the theory and techniques in practical pest management situations.

This is not the view of Dr Burton who says, "We have not relied exclusively on our examiners for expert advice as we have access to a network of informal contacts in all sectors of the industry and through our attendance at the pest control education and training forum, at PestTech and PestEx and by reading industry magazines such as **Pest**. This will continue to help us ensure that the qualifications we offer remain appropriate to the needs of the industry. Those of our examiners who do not carry out training for RSPH qualifications will form a solid base on which we can build a new team of knowledgeable and skilled examiners that I know are out there."

Examiners are part of the industry

Neither is it a concern recognised by Inverness-based Andrew Denholm who, after a career in environmental health in Scotland, has acted as a RSPH examiner for the last 14 years and will continue to exclusively do so. He says: "The key to this will be the feedback that examiners receive on the questions in the exam paper so that we can listen and change as pest practice and technology changes, while maintaining the academic validity of the awards and certificates."

Examiners do not live on a separate planet! We are part of the industry and effective communication between all parties –



instructors, examiners, pest companies and RSPH can ensure that the pest exams continue to serve the needs of the industry."

Sadly all individuals who have for many years been involved in both the training and examining side of these qualifications are being forced to make a choice. Clive Boase (the Pest Management Consultancy) and Adrian Meyer (Acheta) are both being forced to decide. As Adrian explains: "Personally I don't think it's a bad thing dividing the two activities. I will continue on the training side, as this is what I enjoy

most, but I will miss being involved in the discussion around the setting of the exam questions. Devising the right wording for the questions is not as easy as you might think. Then the questions do need to be kept up-to-date with regulatory and technical developments. Finding and integrating new people to serve as examiners will not be an easy task."

The proof of the pudding will be that neither examination centres or candidates observe any consequences as a result of these changes.



Unit PM2.8: Develop Yourself in the Job Role	Unit PM3.2 General Pest Management	Unit PM3.3 Management and Control of Bird Pests	Unit PM3.4 Management and Control of Commensal Rodents	Unit PM3.5 Management and Control of Non-Commensal Mammals	Unit PM3.6 Management and Control of Public Health Invertebrates	Unit PM3.7 Management and Control of Stored Product Invertebrates	Unit PM3.8 Selling and Marketing Pest Management Services and Products	Unit PM3.9 Supervisory Aspects of Pest Management
✓								
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

For the Level 3 Diploma units PM3.3 to PM3.9 are options, candidates only take one of these units

The L2 Diploma in Pest Management is also a requirement for anyone undertaking an apprenticeship in pest management. RSPH also has a Level 2 Award in Using Aluminium Phosphide Safely for the Management of Vertebrate Pests. As a specialist qualification no units are shared with the more general pest management qualification listed above.

Bird licence changes

Consultation results announced



Anyone involved in bird management needs to keep up-to-date with legal requirements and guidance. In this article we review the results of the consultation by Natural England (NE) and the adjustments that have been made to the General and Class Licences for protected species in England.

On 16 September 2014, Natural England published its response to the wide-ranging consultation on potential adjustments to General and Class Licences for protected species issued under wildlife legislation.

This consultation took place between February and May this year.

Periodic review

These licences are periodically reviewed with stakeholders and the general public regarding proposed changes and at the same time seeking views on broader topics. The last such review was in 2008 when a number of changes were implemented, in particular relating to non-native species, large gull species and a new Class Licence for food premises.

In this round of consultation, views were sought on 65 separate questions: 46 relating to specific proposals that NE were making and 19 where NE was seeking information rather than proposing a licence change.

Only a few of these were relevant to professional pest controllers – the balance relating to such subjects as wildlife taxidermy.

Plenty of responses to consider

The consultation attracted over 2,000 responses.

These have now been evaluated by the Natural England board. 25 proposals were well supported and the board members were confident that these were the right changes to make in the interests of the effective and safe management of wildlife.

For a number of other proposals the case for change had not been sufficiently made so these will not be implemented. However, for a pretty large proportion of the proposed changes, the board decided: 'To consider the feedback in detail before any changes to the current licensing arrangements are made'. This means the decision was deferred and further changes could still be implemented in the future.

Shoo before you shoot

The proposal which attracted the most media attention was what became known as the 'shoo before you shoot' amendment. This was one of the many amendments not implemented. The National Farmers Union (NFU) commented: "Natural England's decision not to complicate rules for farmers and growers who need to protect their crops from certain bird species is sensible."

A similar reaction came from the National Gamekeepers' Organisation (NGO) who declared the announcement: "a victory for commonsense and the countryside." They were smart enough to notice the deferred proposals and have issued a cautionary note, warning that there was work still to be done as 20 of the original proposals have merely been deferred, pending further consideration of responses.

Pest approached the Natural England press office to find out if there was any timetable for the 'further consideration' of the outstanding items. Unfortunately, they were unable to give any timeframe.

An extra Tesco 'customer' ruffles feathers



A female pied wagtail that set-up home in the Tesco store in Great Yarmouth hit the national headlines. Living off crumbs in the cafe and making itself comfy in the clothing department, this uninvited guest earned itself quite a fan club, even TV naturalist Chris Packam, who tweeted his concerns.

Over many weeks, all attempts by Tesco staff to catch the invader failed. Under the Natural England General Licence applying to food premises this bird can now be trapped and released. But the bird acquired star status when it became known clearance had been granted to shoot it and marksmen engaged.

On 21 September, with help from the British Trust for Ornithology, giant mist nets were erected, the invader caught and subsequently released outdoors. One does wonder if such concern would have been shown had the feathered pest not been such an attractive and chirpy customer.

Summary of Natural England board decisions on General and Class wildlife licences

In an attempt to simplify the responses, **Pest** has poured over the summary of board decisions to pick-out those most relevant to pest management professionals. These are shown below. The section numbers refer to those used in both the original consultation document and the board summary of proposals. Both documents can be accessed via the links in the news story on the **Pest** website.

Section 1 – for the purposes of preventing agricultural damage or disease and conserving flora & fauna

To add – Egyptian goose (but not greylag goose) to General Licence (GL) WML-GL04.

Declined – the removal of jackdaw, jay and collared dove from GL WML-GL04 and jackdaw and jay from WML-GL06.

Section 2 – For the purposes of preserving public health and safety

Declined – the addition of greylag goose, mallard, pied wagtail, robin and starling to GL WML-GL05.

Section 3 – Large gulls

Deferred – amendment to General and Class Licence arrangements for lesser black-backed and herring gulls.

Section 4 – Crow species

Declined – amendment to the wording Crow *Corvus corone* to Carrion crow *Corvus corone* in General and Class Licences.

Section 5 – Air safety Class Licence (CL) WML-CL12

To implement – prior registration to become a requirement for users

To implement – a requirement to provide nil returns, as part of the reporting requirements

To add – greylag goose and Egyptian goose (but not stock dove, curlew or oystercatcher).

Section 6 – Food premises CL WML-CL03

To add – pied wagtail, blue tit, great tit, dunnoek and song thrush, so permitting trapping and release.

Section 7 – Trapping Code of Practice

Deferred – various amendments to the Code of Practice.



© Andreas Trepte

Egyptian Goose (*Alopochen aegyptiaca*) has been added to General Licence GL04 and the Air Safety Class Licence

Section 8 – Keeping trapped birds as decoys

Deferred – various amendments to keeping and retaining decoy birds.

Section 9 – Referenced tagging system for traps

Deferred – the use of a reference tagging system for traps

Section 10 – Use of Larsen-Mate type traps

Deferred – decision as to whether Larsen-Mate traps should be permitted for use under General and Class licences

Section 11 – Humane disposal of birds

Declined – to add wording re reasonable precautions to avoid unnecessary suffering to birds

Sections 26, 27 & 28 – Licence conditions

Declined – various additions regarding 'Read and understand' before taking the licensed action, breaching licence conditions and resulting sanctions.

Section 28b – General Licence users with convictions

To implement – users with relevant convictions who had permission withdrawn may apply to NE. Each application will be considered on its merits.

Section 31 – The 'No satisfactory alternative' legal test

Declined – amendment which would have required licence holders to have taken reasonable and appropriate steps to resolve the problem, such as scaring and proofing

Your ten minute guide to licences issued by Natural England



Natural England (NE) is the government's adviser on the natural environment. It provides practical advice, grounded in science, on how best to safeguard England's natural wealth for the benefit of everyone.

NE's regulatory duties are based on a range of legislation relating to the natural environment and covering both national and international obligations. Derogations are issued under wildlife legislation (commonly referred to as licences) as one of their duties and NE is authorised to exercise this power in accordance with an agreement made with the Secretary of State under section 78 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.

Licences are only issued for specified purposes which are set down in the relevant legislation and only if certain specific criteria are met. NE applies five general principles to all its licensing activities. These are:

- There is a genuine problem to resolve or need to satisfy for which a licensing purpose is applicable;
- There are no satisfactory alternatives;
- The licensed action will contribute to resolving the problem or meeting the need;
- The action to be licensed is proportionate to the scale of the problem or need;
- The licensed action will not have an adverse effect on the favourable conservation status of any habitat type or species within its natural range.

Licences can be issued to individuals, organisations, projects and, under some legislation, to a wider category of people whereby any person satisfying certain stated criteria may rely on the licence.

These more widely applicable licences are typically referred to as either 'General' or 'Class' licences. The key features of the principal licence types are summarised in Box 1.

The different licence types make different requirements on people seeking permission to use a licence. Typically, the administrative effort required to obtain and act under a licence declines from Individual to General Licence. This is summarised in Box 2.



Box 1: The key features of the principal licence types

Individual licence

- User known
- Merits assessed
- Bespoke terms & tailored limits
- Report of action
- Compliance checking
- Able to assess impact

Class licence

- User known
- General assessment of merits
- Generic conditions
- Report of action
- Generic limits
- Compliance checking
- Able to assess impact

General licence

- User unknown
- General assessment of merits
- Generic conditions
- No report
- No limits
- No compliance checking
- Unable to assess impact

Box 2: Differences in requirements for licence users

Individual licence

- Must apply to use on each occasion or each year
- Need to provide detailed evidence in support of application
- Reporting requirement
- Compliance routinely checked

Class licence

- Must register before **first** use of licence
- May need to provide evidence of skills or experience, but not of need for licence
- Reporting requirement
- Compliance may be checked

General licence

- No need to seek permission to use licence
- No requirement to provide supporting evidence
- No requirement to report on licensed activities
- Compliance checking unlikely

Separate arrangements apply to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and details can be found as follow:

For Scotland: Scottish Natural Heritage www.snh.gov.uk

For Wales: Natural Resources Wales www.naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

For Northern Ireland: the Department of the Environment www.doeni.gov.uk



International

3 ACTIVES 7 FORMULATIONS, YOUR CHOICE.

View our full range of products at www.pelgar.co.uk



Leading the
way in British
pest control

01420 80744

sales@pelgar.co.uk

www.pelgar.co.uk

PelGar International is trusted across the world as the **number one choice** for rodenticides. Our customers benefit from advanced research and development, excellence in manufacture and full technical support.

Use rodenticides safely. Always read the label and product information before use. Roban contains 0.005%w/w difenacoum. Rodex contains 0.005%w/w bromadiolone. Vertox contains 0.005%w/w brodifacoum.

The Ladykillers

Pest Detectives

KEO films



The Ladykillers is a new four-part series produced by KEO Films for BBC2 featuring four female pest professionals as they tackle pest management challenges around the country. The stars are Deborah (Debbie) Boulton of Des Bone in Sussex, Angela (Ange) Chettle-Sloan from Conquer Pest Control in Nottinghamshire, Janet Dixon from Kwickill on the Lancashire/Yorkshire border and Imogen Levenson of Tufnell Park Pest Control in London. Associate editor Helen Riby caught up with them after filming and as they wait, with varying degrees of trepidation, to see the results of their efforts broadcast to the nation.



Angela Chettle-Sloan, gets ready to be filmed driving to her next job, a clothes moth infestation in Nottingham



From left: client Anne Steele, pest controller, Ange, producer Sophie Ellis, sound man Craig Atherton and cameraman/director David Lawrence

DEADLINE®

PROFESSIONAL PEST CONTROL

Rentokil
The Experts in Pest Control

DEADLINE ALPHA EXPRESS

Alphachloralose Bait Blocks

AVAILABLE
from your
stockist
NOW

- » A specially formulated block to control mice
- » Fast acting, super quick control of mice infestations indoors
- » Ideal for reducing infestations or treating ongoing problems
- » Non-anticoagulant rodenticide
- » No secondary poisoning!
- » Easy to use inserts for use with tamper resistant bait boxes
- » SPECIAL OFFER - buy one case get 10 bait boxes free*

USE IT - DEPEND ON IT

Deadline AE contains Alphachloralose 4%; for indoor use only. *T&Cs apply. Use biocides safely. Always read the label and product information before use.

0800 313 4619

products@rentokil.com

Pest control has caught the eye of TV producers on more than one occasion and the resulting coverage has not always portrayed the industry in a particularly good, or for that matter, a particularly accurate, way. So what made these four individuals agree to brave the cameras and how have they found the experience?

All four agree that it's been 'very different' and, for a lot of the time, pretty good fun too.

Big time commitment

It has also been far more time consuming than they ever imagined as Janet Dixon explained: "We're a family business, originally me and my Dad but he's now largely retired and it's me and son Tim with some help from my daughter. Having me spending nights away tackling jobs for the series as far afield as Newcastle and Glasgow has put a strain on the business."

Of the four Janet was probably the most reluctant to get involved. As well as concerns about how the industry might be portrayed, she doesn't like giving presentations and she didn't think she'd be any good in front of the camera. After a bit of arm twisting however, she agreed to do a screen test. "To be honest I was hoping they'd say it was rubbish," she confessed. But, it turns out she's a bit of a natural!

One aspect that tipped the balance in favour of Janet taking part was her belief that more women should be involved at the practical end of pest control. That was a big factor in Angela Chettle-Sloan's decision too. Ange is also keen to get over the message that pest control is all about helping people. When I tagged along with her

to an afternoon's filming in Arnold on the outskirts of Nottingham at the end of August, the care she took in explaining the problem and what needed to be done was evident. She also dispelled some well-established myths about pests only thriving in dirty homes. The relief felt by the clients, home owners Anne and Ken Steele, whose lovely bungalow had become infested with clothes moths, was very obvious.

Ange is also featured using her terriers on a massive rat job at a potato farm and shooting rabbits in Essex. She's a bit nervous that the public are going to see her as 'a bunny killer' but shooting was the only answer to this pest problem. Trapping was certainly out of the question as there were far too many domestic cats and as they discovered at the night shoot, hedgehogs, in the area.

Fun to make

Deborah Bolton, who is based in rural Sussex, thoroughly enjoyed the experience. "It's been lots of fun," she said, "If the series is half as good to watch as it has been fun to make, it will be a great success."

Debbie's film work included sending rats tails off to Reading University and she was surprised to find that she did have some resistance in her patch. It also featured a honey bee problem in a belfry. She promptly explained that killing bees is only ever a last resort and that in this case as is usual for her, she recommended calling in a beekeeper to remove the bees. "I foolishly expected this would be an easy session, turn-up, recommend the beekeeper and sit back. But no, the director thought it would be fun to get me to go up with the beekeeper and help remove the bees!"

There were three bee colonies of around 70,000 bees each: "I know the theory that other honey bees will come to steal the honey once a colony has been moved but, I can now confirm, at first hand, that they do. And, probably because filming is such a slow process, they arrived in their thousands. So if you do ever have to treat a honey bee hive, then making sure it's properly sealed afterwards is absolutely essential."

For Imogen, who only recently took the plunge to get back into pest control in her own business, it has also been a great opportunity to talk to some of the country's leading experts. As a qualified zoologist with an MSc in rural resources & environmental policy and, before taking a career break to have her children, technical director at Dyno-kil, Imogen was asked to visit various pest experts to question them about their specialities. She has a great



The Ladykillers, standing: Angela Chettle-Sloan, left, with Deborah Boulton, kneeling: Janet Dixon, left, and Imogen Levenson

interest in insect pests so she particularly enjoyed meeting experts like bed bug researcher Dr Richard Naylor and museum pest guru David Pinniger.

Entertainment value

Of course, the first requirement for any TV programme is that it is entertaining. *The Ladykillers* has in-built entertainment value, who'd have thought that women actually do practical pest control! And there are some contrived moments too, such as getting the out-and-out rural Debbie to swap with Imogen from central London. For Debbie getting her van to the site was an even bigger challenge than dealing with the onsite pests. On the other hand for Imogen, tackling a bigger rat problem than she was used to, in a large barn converted into stables, was also a real eye-opener.

Throughout KEO Films have been keen to make it educational as well. They have included interviews with leading pest experts and wanted to show the high-tech end of the

business. BPCA's most recent past president, and Ange's boss at Conquer, Henry Mott, has also been involved offering advice throughout, but especially at the editing stage, to make sure the series does pest control justice. "I understand it has to be entertaining but I also want it to raise the profile of the industry in a sensible manner. I think it was actually Jack Kent who originally used the term 'ladykillers' to describe the women he employed at Conquer, Ange included. I hope that the programme will show that pest management is a good career and one that many more women could, indeed should, take up."

There's been a lot of effort put into filming the pests themselves too, using special macro cameras, so even the most experienced pest professionals will get to see pests in a way that they've never seen them before.

Having talked to all four ladykillers I, for one, am looking forward to watching the whole series.

As *Pest* went to press, the transmission date was still to be decided. As series producer Paul Durgan explains: "We deliver the programme to the BBC in November. It could broadcast then, but it could just as easily be broadcast in 2015. That it is a prime time show for BBC2 is about all we know for sure."



Haven't you HEARD? Resistance is futile with Rodilon®.



Rodilon®

For further information call 00800 1214 9451

- ✓ No known resistance in rats or mice.
- ✓ Pioneering new active ingredient; the first for over 20 years.
- ✓ Highly palatable and effective single feed solution to rodent problems.
- ✓ For indoor use only with four convenient baiting options; Wheat Tech, Trio, Soft Blocks and Blocks.

USE BIOCIDES SAFELY. ALWAYS READ THE LABEL AND PRODUCT INFORMATION BEFORE USE. PAY ATTENTION TO THE RISK INDICATIONS AND FOLLOW THE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS ON THE LABEL. For further product information including warning phrases and symbols refer to product label or www.pestcontrol-expert.com Rodilon® contains 0.0025% w/w difethialone. BPR: UK-2011-0043, UK-2011-0048, UK-2011-0050, UK-2011-0051. Rodilon® is a registered trademark of Bayer CropScience Ltd. © Copyright of Bayer CropScience Ltd 2012. Bayer CropScience Ltd, 230 Cambridge Science Park, Milton Road, Cambridge CB4 0WB Tel: 00800 1214 9451 www.pestcontrol-expert.com

Plan your trip to PestTech 2014



EVENTS
PestTech 2014



The highlight of the autumn events calendar is PestTech.

Organised by the National Pest Technicians Association (NPTA), the 2014 event is being held on Wednesday 5 November – so no excuses for not remembering the date this year. Depending on how far you have to travel you should, just about, be able to get round everything and still make it back for bonfire night! As usual, the venue is the centrally located National Motor Cycle Museum in the West Midlands.

The exhibition, with more than 50 exhibitors, is at the heart of PestTech and all the major manufacturers and distributors will be present. The exhibitor list also includes a range of organisations and companies providing support services, training and advice for pest professionals.

Back by popular demand is the gun range. This first appeared at the 2013 event and, despite the rain, it attracted a good crowd. Organised and run by BSA Guns and the Airgun Training & Education Organisation, visitors will be able to handle and try-out a range of air rifles. Also outside will be demonstrations of birds of prey and ferreting.

The *Pest Control News* workshop is also a regular at the event. The idea is to take a topic currently under review and allow delegates to have their say. This year's topic, the Second-Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (SGARs) stewardship programme, will affect the way these products can be used in future, so you can't get much more topical than that. Get along to the Ballacrairie Suite at 11.00 to find out what's happening and make your views heard.

The programme of technical seminars will be held in the Kirkmichael Suite. Waste disposal, the General Licence for birds, the use of aluminium phosphide and the launch of a new urban deer training programme are all on the agenda.

For those with strong constitutions, it doesn't all stop here! The exhibition closes at 16.00 – time enough to allow the exhibitors to pack-up and make their way to the Windmill Village hotel for the *Pest Control News* dinner.

All in all a very busy day. We are pleased to present a timetable of activities overleaf. Careful planning is needed if you are to get round everything within the day! See you there.

Plan your trip with our quick guide to PestTech 2014

5 November 2014, The National Motorcycle Museum, Birmingham

organised by:



National Pest Technicians Association



Collect Your CPD

All workshops, seminars and demonstrations, as well as actually attending PestTech, are worth BASIS PROMPT professional pest controller register CPD points. Make sure you collect yours. Call at the BASIS Prompt stand and bring your membership card and BASIS will scan your details in.

Practical demonstrations

Outside

See and learn from the experts

Morning
5 November

Afternoon
5 November

Air gun range – try the guns for yourself
courtesy of ATEO and BSA Guns UK

all day

Birds of prey in pest management demonstration
by Jan Prymeka, JRCS Falconry

09.45 - 10.00

13.45 - 14.00

The art of ferreting
by Simon Whitehead, Pakefield Ferrets

10.00 - 10.15

14.00 - 14.15

Technical workshops

Kirkmichael Suite

Keep up with the technicalities

5 November

Bespoke training courses and CPD from Lantra
by Oliver Madge, Pest Train

10.00 - 10.25

Getting rid of waste
by Matt Womersley, Environment Agency

10.25 - 10.50

The 'do's and don'ts' of the General Licence for bird species
by Nigel Shelton, Natural England

12.30 - 13.00

The CEN Standard: Changing the industry as we know it?
by independent consultants Chris Suter and Rob Fryatt

13.00 - 13.30

Using aluminium phosphide – past, present and future
by Kevin Brown, Register of Metallic Phosphide Standards (RAMPS-UK)

14.15 - 14.30

Introducing the UK's first formally recognised training course in urban deer management
by Mike Allison and Tony Moore, Jelen Deer Services

14.30 - 14.50

National Pest Technicians Association (NPTA) – the future!
with Iain Turner, John Davison and Adam Hawley, NPTA

14.50 - 15.20

Ballacrairie Suite

Workshop 11.00 - 12.00



The Pest Control News workshop is an established part of the PestTech experience. The 2014 workshop will take the form of a panel discussion on Second-Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (SGARs) stewardship. Following the acceptance in principle by the Health & Safety Executive of the most recent set of industry proposals it's time to consider how our use of SGARs must change going forward. There will be plenty of opportunity for questions and comment from the floor so make sure you find time to attend.

As a delegate to PestTech you get free access to the National Motorcycle Museum's collections so don't forget to go and see all those amazing bikes

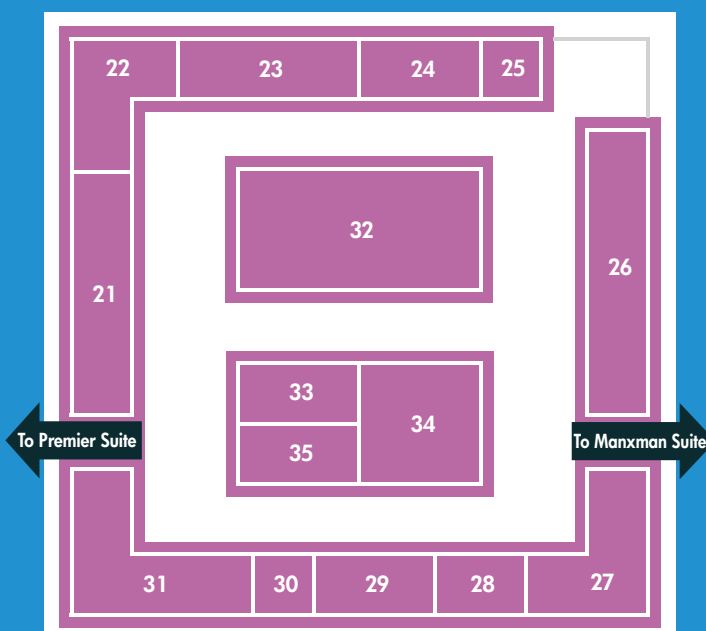
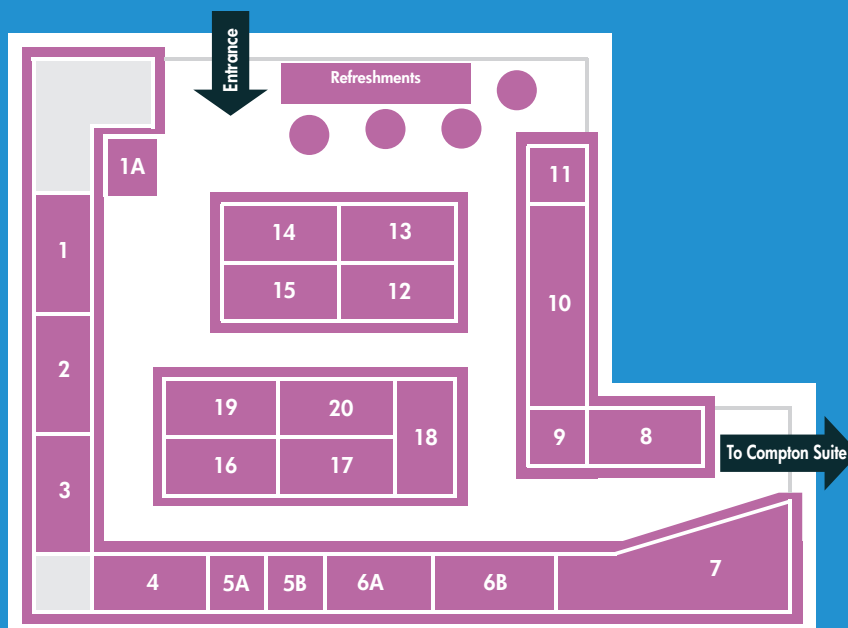
The Exhibition

Doors open at 09.00

Exhibition closes at 16.00

Three CPD points awarded for attendance

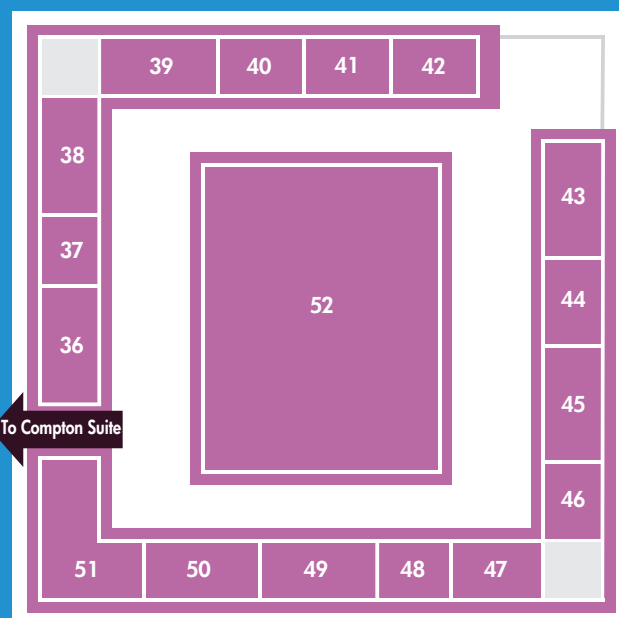
- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Agropharm | 27 Suterra |
| 1A Vermend | 28 Bat Conservation Trust |
| 2 Park Hill Training | 29 County Workwear |
| 3 Bower Products | 30 Pest Magazine |
| 4 Mobile Worxs | 31 Bell International |
| 5A BASIS Prompt | 32 BASF Pest Control Solutions |
| 5B RSPH | 33 Bradshaw Bennett |
| 6A Jones & Son | 34 Barrettine Environmental Health |
| 6B Merlin Environmental | 35 Woodstream Europe |
| 7 Russell Environmental Products | 36 Syngenta |
| 8 WaspBane | 37 International Pest Control |
| 9 Jelen Deer Services | 38 AUWP |
| 10 NPTA & WF Fountain | 39 IHS |
| 11 NPTA | 40 Service Pro |
| 12 Airgun Training & Education | 41 & 42 JRCS Falconry |
| 13 LODI-UK | 43 Control Zone Products |
| 14 Unichem | 44 Sentomol |
| 15 BSA Guns UK | 45 Blattodea Culture Group |
| 16 Vectorfog | 46 BPCA |
| 17 Tenv Solutions | 47 PestWest |
| 18 PestFix | 48 Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use (CRRU) |
| 19 Friendly Data Solutions | 49 & 50 Brandenburg |
| 20 Lantra | 51 Rentokil Products |
| 21 SX Environmental Supplies | 52 Killgerm Group |
| 22 & 23 P+L Systems | |
| 24 & 25 PelGar International | |
| 26 Bayer Environmental Science | |



Compton Suite



Manxman Suite



Refreshments

Light refreshments, including tea and coffee, sandwiches and pastries are available from the catering stand in the Premier Suite.

For those wanting something more substantial the Museum restaurant, on the first floor, provides sit-down meals at reasonable prices.

Rodent Control in Disguise

Protecta® EVO LANDSCAPE™

- ▶ Blends into environment
- ▶ Holds bait or T-Rex
- ▶ Sandstone or Granite
- ▶ Single-lock fast entry EVO® key

Protecta® EVO CIRCUIT™

- ▶ Looks like an electrical box
- ▶ Use vertically or horizontally
- ▶ Removable tray
- ▶ Single-lock fast entry EVO® key



The Next EVolution of Bait Stations



THE WORLD LEADER IN RODENT CONTROL TECHNOLOGY

www.belllabs.com • EMEA@belllabs.com

Chaucer House, Chaucer Road, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 1TN UK

Tel: +44 1787 379 295 • Fax: +44 1787 883 353

www.belllabs.com • EMEA@belllabs.com Bell Laboratories, Inc. Madison, WI 53704 USA

Available from your Bell Distributor



Dr Jackie Duggan

Hantavirus risk measured

Pest management professionals and indeed, other groups that come into contact with rats during the course of their work – sewage workers, farmers and vets – are at no higher risk of being infected with hantavirus than the general population.

That's one of the findings from a report from Public Health England called *Hantavirus infection in people with contact with wild and pet rats in England – preliminary results of a sero-surveillance study*, which has just been published.

Translating the findings into advice for the occupationally-exposed groups, such as pest control workers, Dr Jackie Duggan from Public Health England's Rare and Imported Pathogens Laboratory said: "The risk of hantavirus infection is very low amongst pest controllers. This means that no additional protective measures are required. For this group, who are also at risk of other rodent-borne diseases such as leptospirosis, wearing gloves, washing hands before eating, changing outdoor clothes at the end of the day and wearing a mask in particularly dusty or infested areas are all sensible good practice precautions."

She added: "We were expecting to see more positive cases amongst pest controllers, due to their high contact with rats and rat dander. The most probable reason for the very small number of cases is the group's high awareness of rat-borne diseases and good use of personal protective equipment."

The study was set-up following the confirmation by the Rare and Imported Pathogens Laboratory of six cases of acute kidney injury due to hantavirus infection in the UK since 2012. Two of these were from the Humber region and had documented exposure to wild rats. The other four cases have all been in people with exposure to specially-bred pet fancy rats.

PestTech volunteers gave blood

PestTech 2013 provided Public Health England with an ideal opportunity to get blood samples from pest professionals and 89 willing volunteers came forward during the day. Each volunteer was required to complete a short questionnaire and give a small blood sample to be tested for the



One of the 89 donations at PestTech was from Duncan Turner from Cheltenham BC

presence of antibodies. The presence of antibodies demonstrates previous hantavirus exposure or infection. As the table shows a total of 106 pest professionals took part in the study.

Whilst pest professionals are at no greater risk than the general public, the study found that specialist pet rat owners, who had been contacted through the National Fancy Rat Society, are a third more likely (32.9%) to have been exposed to, or infected with, hantaviruses. Dr Duggan added: "We were not able to measure the risk of hantavirus infection to more generalised pet rat owners (i.e. those who purchased their rats from commercial vendors, such as pet shops), or to those who work closely with pet rats. The risk of hantavirus infection in these groups remains uncertain at the present time."

Hantaviruses are a group of viruses found worldwide that can cause serious diseases in humans. They can be carried by rodents which are asymptomatic – meaning the rodent itself experiences no symptoms. However, rodents shed the virus in their urine,

faeces and saliva resulting in infection of humans through exposure to rodent droppings either inhaled in droplets and dry dust - or via direct contact through handling rodents. All scenarios common to pest controllers.

Although some hantaviruses are associated with asymptomatic infections or mild disease, most can cause serious human infections, ranging from haemorrhagic fever and kidney failure in Europe and Asia, to a severe lung disease in North and South America. Symptomatic human infections with hantaviruses in the UK are rare and, until the recognition of a case of acute kidney injury associated with exposure to wild rats in the Humber region in 2012, were not thought to cause serious disease.

Number of hantavirus positives by study group

Study group	Number of samples	Positive samples	% containing antibodies
Group 1 (control – random donor blood samples from the National Blood Transfusion Service)	300	10	3.33
Group 2 (Pet rat owners)	79	26	32.9
Group 3 (Veterinary)	170	3	1.76
Group 4 (Farmers)	120	2	1.67
Group 4 (Waste water workers)	70	2	2.83
Group 4 (Pest control)	106	3	2.83



Ultrabait VR

**Tamper and Vandal Resistant
Steel Bait Station For Rats
and Mice**



The Ultimate in Bait Stations

- Steadfast key locking mechanism
- Seamless galvanised casing
- Heavy or light wall bracket options
- Removable plastic bait tray
- Ultra fast servicing

Accessories



Key
Ultrabait VR Key - one key fits all



Light duty wall fixing bracket



Heavy duty wall fixing bracket



Ground Stake- 500mm



Available in Green
or Black

Designed & Manufactured by
Rat Pak Engineering Ltd. Moor Lane, Thorpe on the Hill, Lincoln LN6 9BW
Tel : 01522 686070 Fax : 01522 691112
Email : info@ratpak.co.uk Web : www.ratpak.co.uk



Non-toxic baits have a place in rodent monitoring but according to the BASF/*Pest* survey of pest professionals not many are choosing to use them. Why should that be? Surely popping some non-toxic bait into the bait box is the easy answer to the 'no more permanent baiting' question. But, as BASF's Sharon Hughes points out, it's not so clear cut as you might think!

Rodent watch!

Best practice in rodent monitoring

Despite the wider availability of non-toxic baits in recent years as a convenient way of monitoring rat and mouse activity in the absence of extended rodenticide baiting, the latest National UK Pest Management Survey shows they are only being employed by a minority of pest controllers.

Indeed, over 60% of the 330 professionals involved in the 2014 *Pest* magazine survey organised with BASF Pest Control Solutions, seldom, or never use non-toxic baits around buildings, while less than a quarter routinely, or often employ them.

Even less popular are the alternative monitoring options of electronic sensors, glue boards or live and snap traps (Fig 1).

The use of most monitoring devices is slightly higher within buildings, with snap traps particularly popular – presumably since mice are the key target. Even so the majority of professional pest controllers seldom, or

never use non-toxic baits in these situations.

No surprise

While she sees accurate assessments of the scale and foci of rodent populations ahead of treatment as a key element in ensuring rapid and effective control, BASF rodenticide development manager, Sharon Hughes is not surprised by the limited appeal of non-toxic baiting in professional use.

She accepts the practice could be valuable in a limited number of very specific indoor situations (like mouse control in secure factory units, or in food factories where the use of toxic baits is not allowed) but in most



Low-tech can often be the best solution when it come to rodent monitoring, says BASF's Sharon Hughes

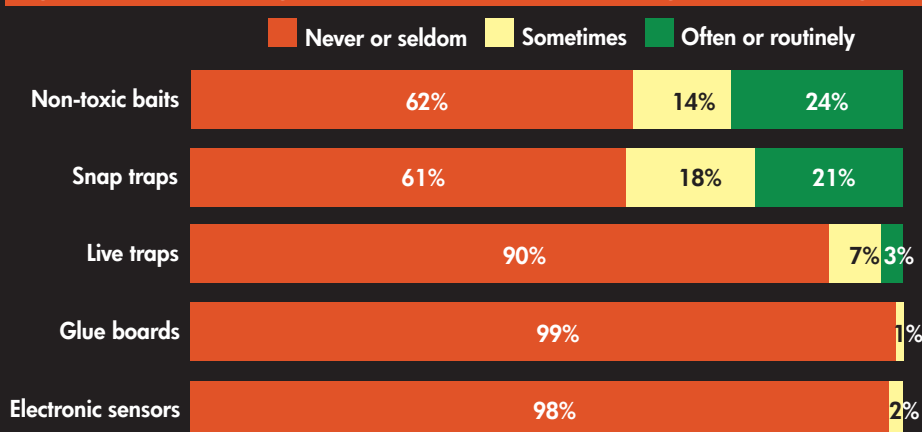
circumstances she considers it goes against a number of important rodent control principles.

Under-baiting often causes failure

"One of the main reasons for rodent control failures is under-baiting," explains Sharon. "The main reason for under-baiting is under-estimating how many rats or mice you're dealing with. This may be due simply to the lack of an initial comprehensive survey. As a result, sheer numbers overwhelm the bait and many individuals are let-off the hook with a sub-lethal dose of rodenticide. Apart from anything else, of course, this is about the best way I know of encouraging the development of resistance," she adds.

"As a way of monitoring rodent populations while minimising rodenticide

Fig 1: What, if anything do you use for rodent monitoring around buildings?



Source: National UK Pest Management Survey 2014

exposure in the environment, non-toxic baits may be superficially attractive to some. But, in many situations, all you're really doing in using them, is feeding rats and mice. This runs completely contrary to the fundamental control principle of restricting their food supply.

"Equally, by placing these baits around the buildings you want to protect you're giving rats and mice an open invitation to the very areas you want to keep them away from as well as helping to build populations in their immediate vicinity.

Attracting non-target species

"You're also attracting non-target species, like field mice and voles to come closer to buildings in general and bait stations in particular," advises Sharon. "And that is something that needs to be avoided wherever possible.

"In many cases therefore, just like the now discredited 'barrier baiting' of old, you'll have little idea of how much of the monitoring bait has been consumed by the pests you want to kill rather than the species you need to safeguard. And you'll almost certainly be putting the latter at greater risk during treatment by habituating them to the location and food source.

"Add in a proprietary product cost similar to many rodenticide baits and non-toxic baiting has even more downsides. In fact, I see it as often replacing the sort of professional practice we need in the industry with an expensive extra that can easily do more harm than good."

So how does Sharon believe rodent activity should be monitored as part of pest control contracts for the best targeted and most effective treatment without relying on non-toxic bait box-filling to replace the extended rodenticide use of the past?

Well, she sees nothing to beat a clear understanding of rat and mouse behaviour, aided by an experienced trained eye and a good torch. To supplement this she suggests the routine, but discrete, use of the old Ministry of Agriculture technique of sand tracking patches.



Torch and eyeball – an effective solution

"If you know what to look for, the tell-tale signs of rat and mouse infestation are easy to spot," she insists. "All the more so, if you look in the most likely places with sufficient diligence, rather than those which are the simplest and easiest places to place bait,

"Well-informed, regular inspection in this way alone will be quite enough to alert you to the first signs of infestation. You can then undertake a full survey of the premises to give a better idea of the scale and location of the problem and make an early start to rodenticide baiting. Close monitoring of bait takes over the first few days of treatment, in particular, and regular visits thereafter, will allow you to monitor, relocate and top-up bait stations, as necessary, to address the full challenge.

"That way you should be able to get on top of most problems well within 35 days. If not, it may be because your inspection practice falls short of what it should be. So you're failing to identify and start treating infestations early enough for the most effective control."

Tracking patches work well

As part of the survey process, Sharon strongly recommends using some form of tracking mechanism. She favours putting down patches of fine sand around buildings wherever signs of infestation are obvious, or where rats and mice may be travelling, smoothing them over, protecting them from the elements and returning to inspect them the following day. She notes that the sand will record any activity with little or no movement of material from the patch. Alternatively, she suggests chalk or fluorescent dusts can be used to give a better idea of where rodents are travelling, although she finds the latter can be confusing with repeat or persistent infestations.

"The proportion of fine-sand with paw prints is an excellent indication of both rodent numbers and routes of travel, allowing for more accurate initial bait station placement and rodenticide use," she points out.



Clear evidence of rodents in residence

"A 'low tech' solution they may be but sand tracking patches are hugely valuable. In addition to being readily available and highly economic, they have the added advantage of having no nutritional value. So you get the monitoring you need without any of the downsides.

Role for snap-traps too

"Snap traps can be useful too. But as they tend to be expensive, time-consuming and unsuitable for large numbers of rats and mice, I prefer using them at the end of treatment programmes or for small infestations. They can be particularly valuable in eliminating any rodents that may have escaped the baiting programme as well as demonstrating that complete clearance has been achieved."



Detailed inspection is central to effective monitoring



Silver sand tracking patch, low-tech maybe but revealing

Don't just settle for standard. Create an impression.



The all new 2014 range
VECTOR FOG

To learn more visit: www.vectorfog.com

Dust in time!

Dust mites are not an insect pest controllers often come into contact with. What brought them to our attention at **Pest** was the all too often occasions when national newspapers discuss the perils of bed bugs and then promptly include a photograph of a dust mite! So we thought the moment was right to review this pest.

Dust mites are a cosmopolitan group of arthropods that refer to a number of species which are normally found in the home. The most common species in both Australia and the UK is *Dermatophagoides pteronyssinus* from the family Pyroglyphidae. However, there are a range of other species that are loosely named 'dust mites', as well as a number of predatory mites that share the same dusty environment.

Dust mites live in the fine layer of minute dust particles that continually settles on household items. They are found almost worldwide but their numbers are considerably reduced at high altitudes and in dry climates.

The mites favour homes with high humidity levels and constant warm temperatures and, under these conditions, mite populations can explode, although there are some seasonal fluctuations.

The mites are known to concentrate in high traffic areas in homes and on certain furniture items, especially beds, upholstered lounges, chairs and in carpets with long fibres. They are attracted to these areas for food and they feed on shed human skin scales and secretions, house dust, fungal spores, pollen grains, plant fibres and insect scales.

Dust mites dislike strong light and will take harbourage in the seams, ledges, and framework of furniture when exposed. Due to their light weight, dust mites can become airborne during activities such as bed making, and in this way can be distributed throughout the room or house.

Identification is difficult

Adult mites are described as white to a light tan in colour; they are difficult to see with the naked eye, as they measure only 0.5mm in length, and the developmental stages are smaller.

The body of the mite is oval shaped and covered with fine striations.

Identification of dust mites is performed with the use of light

Our thanks go to Stephen Doggett and Marilyn Geary from the Department of Medical Entomology at Westmead Hospital, NSW, Australia for this informative article.

microscopy and taxonomic keys, after a complex process of separating the mites from the dust substrate. Very few laboratories have the taxonomic skills to confirm the identification of these mites.

There are five stages in the life cycle of a dust mite; from the egg, the larvae stage, then two nymphal stages, and finally the adult.

The whole life cycle from egg to adult takes approximately one month to complete. Mature female mites can lay from one to two eggs per day. Adult mites can live up to two months but this is dependent on the levels of humidity and temperature of their surrounding environment.

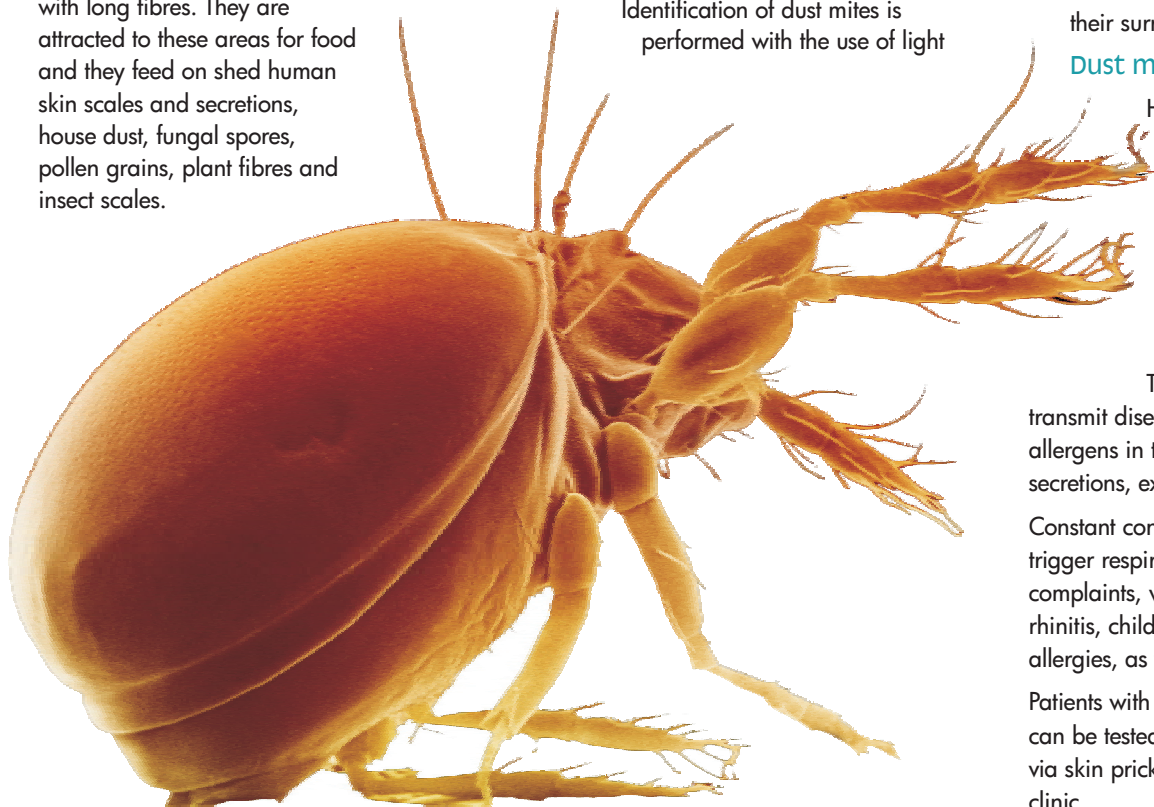
Dust mites and asthma

House dust mites have been known to be associated with allergies since the 1960's and have become a focus over recent years for their involvement with respiratory ailments, particularly as a trigger for asthma.

They do not bite, sting or transmit diseases, but harbour strong allergens in their bodies as well as in their secretions, excreta and shed skins.

Constant contact with these allergens can trigger respiratory and dermatological complaints, which may include allergic rhinitis, childhood eczema, various other allergies, as well as asthma.

Patients with a suspected dust mite allergy can be tested for such an allergic response via skin prick tests in a specialist allergy clinic.





It is estimated that around 70-80% of people in warmer climates have an allergy to dust mites

Managing allergies

Allergies from house dust mites can be managed by immunotherapy using mite extracts in conjunction with reducing the mite population in the home of the patient.

It is virtually impossible to eliminate all dust mites from a household, but areas where mites tend to congregate can be targeted:

- Wall-to-wall carpet should be reduced and replaced, where possible, with smooth, hard surfaces that are easy to clean;
- Upholstered furniture should be avoided;
- Mattresses and pillows should be encased in especially manufactured encasements that aid in the exclusion of mites;
- Bedding and curtains should be selected on their ability to withstand frequent laundering.

In addition:

- Thorough vacuuming on a regular basis using a cleaner with a high efficiency

particulate cleaner, including all mattresses, especially the seams and framework of the bed, will also help to reduce dust mite populations and a build up of the allergens;

- Steam cleaning can readily kill the mites and therefore subsequently reduce the allergens;
- A reduction in humidity levels by increased ventilation throughout the house and the use of air conditioning, will assist in maintaining mites at a lower level.

Chemical means of control

There are various products registered for dust mite control including permethrin and eucalyptus oil, which are largely aimed at the DIY market.

However, these chemical methods will not provide long-term benefits in reducing mite populations, nor will they decrease the allergens.

This means that proper housekeeping with a high degree of hygiene by the homeowner should be the main means of managing dust mites. As such, it is usually unnecessary for pest managers to be involved in dust mite control.

This article first appeared in **Professional Pest Manager**, the leading independent Australian magazine for pest professionals www.ppmmagazine.com.au

Bad news for asthma sufferers

This article details best practice for a reduction in dust mite levels.

However, a search of the Cochrane Collaboration* concluded that there was no evidence for any beneficial effect of either non-chemical or chemical mite controls on asthma levels.

In the paper by authors P C Gøtzsche and H K Johansen it states: "The house dust mite is the allergen to which asthmatics are most frequently sensitive, and the acute effects of exposure on the symptoms of asthma are well established. The explanation that we find most plausible for the lack of effect of the interventions is therefore that the methods we have reviewed do not adequately reduce mite antigen levels as it seems inherently implausible to suggest that complete removal of a major provoking agent would be ineffective. It is important to remember, however, that mite-sensitive asthmatic patients are usually sensitive to other allergens, so that successful elimination of only one allergen may have limited benefit, whatever its success."

It's a complex issue.

* The Cochrane Collaboration is an international, independent, not-for-profit organisation, funded by a variety of sources including governments, universities, hospital trusts, charities and personal donations. Cochrane's vision is that making decisions in healthcare should be informed by high-quality, timely research evidence.

Weird and wonderful

A quick internet search revealed a variety of DIY potions claiming to rid the user of dust mites. Unhelpfully, the active ingredients of most were not detailed.

One site, Hygiene Supplies Direct www.hygienesuppliesdirect.com has a variety of products listed including Protector P Dust Mite spray which claims to 'Get Rid Of Dust Mites! Government Tested. Guaranteed To Work!'

At the time of going to press, it goes on to say 'The choice of professionals is now available to the general public. Kills dust mites – Fast! Protection lasts for up to 3 Months!' Really? Unsurprisingly, no references to substantiate the claims are given.

The a.i. is 0.2% permethrin and the product is sold by manufacturer Agropharm. Their own website does not make quite such wild claims.

Other products available for dust mite control include ultrasonic dust mite repellers and the familiar range of pillow and mattress encasements.

Are these products and the information provided really helpful? No wonder the great British public gets confused by such claims and most likely distressed when they find their purchase makes little headway in solving the problem. None of this does any favours for the image of pest control professionals.

A worldwide centre of excellence

Most readers will have heard of the world-renowned London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine but few are likely to have had the chance to pay it a visit. **Pest** editor, Frances McKim, was very pleased to join a tour laid-on for a small group of Australian pest experts when they were in London en route to the 8th International Conference of Urban Pests in Switzerland.

Situated in the Bloomsbury area of London, roughly half-way between University College Hospital and the British Museum, the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) is one of the most prestigious institutions in the world in the fields of public health and infectious diseases. Part of the University of London, the LSHTM is the largest institution of its kind in Europe with a remarkable depth and breadth of expertise encompassing many disciplines. It is one of the highest-rated research institutions in the UK and has projects and partnerships in more than 100 countries.

The LSHTM's mission is to contribute to the improvement of health worldwide through the pursuit of excellence in research, postgraduate teaching and advanced training in national and international public health and tropical medicine. Research income has grown to over £79 million a year from national and international funding sources, including the UK government, the European Commission, the Wellcome Trust and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

In total, there are nearly 4,000 enrolled students (1,095 London-based and 2,830 distance learning Masters students), more than 600 academic staff and 20,000 former

students working in 180 countries worldwide. The School works across three faculties: epidemiology & population health; infectious & tropical diseases and public health & policy. It was part of the public health and policy group that we were there to meet.

A great honour

Summing-up their time at the LSHTM, Stephen Doggett said: "It was a great honour and privilege to see for ourselves such a venerable institution. I have several lasting memories of our visit. Firstly, just standing outside the School and admiring the architecture sticks strongly in my mind as along the outside of the building there are gold leaf figurines of the various pests that the institution has worked on over the years. This includes mosquitoes, ticks, and even a bed bug!

"Then to enter the building and to cross into the hallow halls in the steps of so many past great scientists was simply awe inspiring. Next, to see two iconic pieces of scientific history was simply mesmerising; the microscope of Ronald Ross who discovered

the link between malaria and mosquitoes, and the actual water pump where John Snow in 1854 recognised a link between an outbreak of cholera and a tainted water supply. It is no surprise that John Snow is now considered the father of epidemiology.

"The other area of the building that stuck in my mind was the former bomb shelter that housed locals during the Blitz in WWII. This room is now used to maintain colonies of mosquitoes that transmit malaria. It seems sort of ironic, but so right that a room that once saved lives is now aiming to do that again, albeit in a very different way.

"Finally, I would like to publically acknowledge our appreciation to Dr James Logan for sparing some of his precious time in showing our team about the School."



Stephen Doggett (right) from the Department of Medical Entomology of Westmead Hospital, NSW, Australia accompanied by two of his research students, David Lilly (centre) and Kai Dang (left), pose outside the famous entrance door



How it all began

The School was founded in 1899 by Sir Patrick Manson as the London School of Tropical Medicine and located at the Albert Dock Seamen's Hospital in the London Docklands treating ailing mariners, many with infectious tropical diseases, on their return to port.

In 1920 the School moved to Endsleigh Gardens in central London and was granted a Royal Charter in 1924 when it officially became known as the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM).

Design competition

Here it took over a former hotel which had been used as a hospital for officers during the First World War. A competition to design a new School building to be sited in Gower Street was held involving five architects who were all experienced in laboratory design and construction.

The competition was won in 1925 by Morley Horder and Verner Rees who located the main entrance in Keppel Street. This unique Art Deco building was opened in 1929 by HRH the Prince of Wales and is still in use today.

Over the years, many acclaimed scientists have worked at the LSHTM. Their discoveries read like a roll-call of public health scientific discovery.

For example, Ronald Ross (1857-1932) discovered in 1897 that the anopheles mosquito transmitted malaria. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1902 and knighted in 1911.

This was followed-up in 1900 by Sir Patrick Manson who conducted an experiment to practically demonstrate to the public this discovery by Ronald Ross. Volunteers, including his son, were bitten by infected mosquitoes and developed malaria. The volunteers were quickly treated with quinine and recovered. The outcome of the experiment demonstrated to the world the mosquito-malaria theory.

In 1950, Sir Richard Doll and Sir Austin Bradford Hill, working together at the School, published the pioneering report linking smoking with lung cancer.

More recently, in the 1980s Professor Chris Curtis (1939-2008) led some of the first trials of Insecticide Treated Nets (ITN) to

control the spread of malaria. He spent much of his career promoting and informing the development of ITN's as a means of practical malaria control.

He developed this concept into a political argument in favour of 'free nets' - the principle that donor funds should be used to give ITNs free of charge to everyone in the target population.

More pioneering research

Over the years the School has researched a whole raft of significant tropical diseases. But coming bang-up-to-date, Professor Peter Piot, who leads the LSHTM as its Director and Professor of Global Health, was a co-discoverer of the Ebola virus.

That was back in 1976. He recently described the epidemic in West Africa as the result of a 'perfect storm' involving dysfunctional health services, low trust in governments, Western medicine's denials about the virus's existence and unhygienic burial practices.



Converted into insectaries in 1963, underground vaults which during World War II acted as bomb shelters, now house extensive insect breeding populations, including the world's longest-established experimental mosquito colonies



Above and left, the building is famed for its Art Deco style. All around the outside are lovely bronze friezes of all the major pests that the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine deals with

A growing commercial resource – arctec

Readers, especially those who took the special *Pest Test* based on the BBC4 programme *Insect Dissection: How Insects Work*, may recognise Dr James Logan from this and his many other radio and television appearances. Accompanied by a scientific team with unique access to the world-renowned research facilities at the School, James leads the Arthropod Control Product Test Centre (arctec) – a division of Chariot Innovations, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

Independent and commercial, arctec is a centre for consultancy, evaluation and development of arthropod pest control technologies. The centre boasts both high standards and the capacity to test almost any arthropod control product, whilst also offering the development of new test protocols for novel products. The group has over 30 years of expertise as part of the School, but in 2010 it was rebranded as arctec.

Just like other commercial research organisations, arctec helps develop products from initial stages of efficacy testing for raw materials and active ingredients through to

fully formulated, commercially viable products. The group also conducts full-scale clinical trials for registration purposes, providing regulatory guidance throughout the process. However, what makes it unique is that testing is done in the state-of-the-art facilities at the School. The group can not only tap into the expertise within the School, but products that require semi-field or field evaluation can also be tested at the centre's partnering field sites in East and West Africa, South East Asia, Latin America, the UK and elsewhere around the world.

Product types currently being worked on include repellents (sprays, lotions, wipes,



A behavioural arena for testing new lures for insect traps, including bed bugs, was displayed by Dr James Logan

sticks and patches), insecticides including formulation variations, treated fabrics and textiles (bed nets, clothing and blankets), treated paint and coatings as well as attractants and lures in laboratory-based behavioural arenas and olfactometers. Outside of professional pest control, clinical testing is also available for head lice products and after-bite products such as creams, sprays, lotions and other products that are designed to treat and/or provide relief to insect bites.

Quizzed about their recent work, James was, regrettably, tight-lipped. Commercial secrecy agreements prevent him from revealing what, or for whom, they have been working. He was only prepared to say that they were organisations: "we would all be familiar with." However, there was one study he was particularly keen to mention: "We are currently conducting a full-scale clinical trial for head lice treatment, which entails the recruitment of over 180 volunteer children. As we work closely with the regulatory authorities, we are able to provide the scientific rigour that larger companies require in this time of an ever-changing regulatory landscape."

Summing-up arctec's recent activities, James said: "This is a very exciting time at arctec as we have grown considerably in the past year to meet a growing demand for our services, whilst still maintaining our high standards. We are always happy to offer consultancy to clients who target arthropod control."



Coupled gas-chromatography electroantennography, where electrodes are attached to an insect's antenna to identify novel attractants and repellents is another piece of specialist kit available



To highlight the importance of using repellents, especially when travelling to tropical countries where insects can spread disease arctec has introduced Bug Off! The first Bug Off insect repellent awareness day was on 3 June 2014.

The ongoing campaign also aims to dispel the many myths surrounding insect repellents and other ways to protect against bites. Activities this year included an educational programme of visits to schools, a poster competition and the School scientists taking to the streets of London to talk to the public about the importance of repellents.



The *New* range of Lodi rodent baits

Every active and formulation you require to
control the toughest of infestations!

Please contact Lodi UK on 01384 404242 or email sales@lodi-uk.com

www.lodi-uk.com

**RUBY
Bait**

**JADE
Bait**

**RACO FORCE
Paste**

Special Offers
available during
October 2014

The clock is ticking for aluminium phosphide users

It's only just over a year before it becomes a legal requirement for all those using aluminium phosphide to control rabbits, rats and moles in their burrows to hold a certificate of competence. Any professional pest controller out there who wishes to continue to use this product after the cut-off date, and has not yet acquired this certificate, you need to get a move on. Time is running out. 26 November 2015 is D-day.

Gearing-up to meet this demand is the Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH). In our last edition (**Pest** issue 34) we reported how Trevor Green of Russell IPM ran the first course in the country leading to the new RSPH Level 2 Award in using aluminium phosphide safely for the management of vertebrate pests.



What Trevor did not mention was that during the first of the two courses he ran he was inspected by both an external verifier and Sara Shackleton, RSPH's compliance manager. This was part of RSPH's quality assurance procedures for the qualification, and is not a reflection on Trevor or Russell IPM.

When centres book a course for the aluminium phosphide qualification with RSPH they have to tell RSPH exactly when and where the practical assessment will take place, including providing GPS co-ordinates of the venue.

Unannounced visits

This is so that RSPH can make unannounced visits during the practical assessment. Centres will know that they will be visited, but they won't know when. The inspection and external verification process ensures that candidates are being assessed correctly. It also enables candidates and their employers to be confident that anyone who receives an aluminium phosphide certificate from RSPH has met all of the assessment criteria and can use aluminium phosphide safely.

The RSPH aluminium phosphide qualification is unique in that centres assess their own candidates rather than having to

arrange for a separate assessment after the course has completed, or candidates having to find their own assessor. Before centres are approved they must first satisfy RSPH that their assessors have suitable experience in using aluminium phosphide safely and in assessing candidates. The centre's assessment decisions are subject to external verification by RSPH, so centres have to provide the external verifier with evidence to show why they made their assessment decisions.

New handbook

To aid candidates in their preparation for this Level 2 Award, RSPH has just published a very helpful 44-page handbook. It can be used by delegates on any courses, or simply by an individual preparing for assessment.

It covers the chemical itself, protective equipment, how to use the product, the target pests, storage, transport and record keeping. Colour pictures and illustrative diagrams are used throughout.

Copies cost £10 plus P&P for individual copies, or at a discount for bulk supplies, details from the RSPH bookshop at bookshop@rsph.org.uk or www.rsph.org.uk/en/resources/bookshop



AS SEEN AT
PPC LIVE!

WE TAKE YOU
**MOBILE
FOR LESS**

Apple, Android, Windows, Green

ServSuite
THE PEST CONTROL SOFTWARE SOLUTION

BRITANNIA, IONISED, GREEN ARMY, MITE, ORKIN, WITTE

✓ SCHEDULING	✓ BARCODE SCANNING	✓ REPORTING
✓ INVOICING	✓ FLEET MANAGEMENT	✓ COMPLIANCE
✓ MOBILE APPS	✓ ROUTING/MAPPING	✓ E-MAIL
✓ MARKETING	✓ INVENTORY	✓ WEB PORTAL

globalsales@servsuite.net 0208 816 7164 www.ServicePro.com/uk



New foam rodenticide coming soon from Bayer

Researched and developed by Bayer, Racumin Foam is a specialised water-based foam formulation designed for use against both rats and mice. It contains the first-generation active ingredient, coumatetralyl and provides a timely alternative to second-generation-based products, details Bayer.

The company says that the product provides a solution to address current pressures on second-generation rodenticides, especially in sensitive environments. Delivered as a water-based foam aerosol, it should be considered as an additional part of a modern IPM approach within the professional pest controller's armoury, says Bayer.

Bayer's Alan Morris explains: "Unlike baits, Racumin Foam is not reliant on palatability for uptake. It works by using the rodent's natural grooming habits. When

the foam is placed in areas where rodents are known to pass, such as access holes, cavity walls and pipe-works, the foam will be transferred onto the coats of the pests as they brush past. It will then be ingested straight into their blood stream during routine grooming, limiting non-target species exposure."

He adds that Racumin Foam offers a perfect solution in circumstances where other food temptations limit bait uptake, or where traditional baiting methods, e.g. putting product inside cavity walls, are not possible. It can also replace previous contact activity powder formulations, which are no longer available."

www.pestcontrol-expert.com



Two lines of attack to repel birds

Ornoway bird gel is a non-toxic, pharmaceutical grade optical and olfactory bird repellent gel from Barretine. It has been developed and manufactured in the UK, along with low-profile UV stabilised dishes. These dishes accommodate a variety of gutter and window clips as well as optional magnets for metal surface applications. Barretine says that the gel has a dual line of repellence. First, the bird's olfactory senses are repelled by the mint fragrance and then, visually, it is repelled as, under UV light, the bird perceives the gel as white hot. Ornoway bird gel is available in 250g tubes and comes with 15 dishes.

www.barrettine.co.uk



There are now 45 reasons why you should change your spikes supplier

The Bird-X™ Range of professional stainless steel bird control spikes offers the user up to 45 more points per linear metre* than other leading brands.

- Super flexible & super slim
- UV stabilised polycarbonate base
- Built-in glue groove & rivet holes
- Gutter clips available
- Manufactured in 33cm strips from grade 304 stainless steel
- Available in Narrow, Medium & Wide x 115mm for Pigeons & 150mm for Gulls

Call: +44 (0)1903 538 488 for a Trade Price List and Catalogue
sales@pestfix.co.uk

Free written quotations. Free technical advice.
Available from stock, next day delivery.

* Based on medium width spike.

Pestfix, Units 2c & 2d, Littlehampton Marina, Ferry Road, Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 5DS. United Kingdom.

DISTRIBUTED BY
Pestfix



Barrettine
Environmental Health

Ornaway

Bird Gel

Visual & Olfactory
Bird Repellent

- ✈ Non-toxic visual & olfactory gel to deter pest bird species
- ✈ Effective for all pressure sites
- ✈ Low profile solution
- ✈ Dish accommodates gutter clips, window clips and magnets
- ✈ 250g tubes & 15 UV stabilised dishes
- ✈ Developed & manufactured in the UK
- ✈ Ornaway does not contain polybutene
- ✈ Formulated with gels that meet European Pharmacopoeia standards

NEW

Developed by UK scientists.
Manufactured in the UK.



Barrettine Environmental Health
St. Ivel Way, Warmley, Bristol BS30 8TY.
Tel 0117 967 2222 Fax 0117 961 4122
Email beh@barrettine.co.uk www.barrettine.co.uk

A new member of the Xlure family

Joining the Xlure range from Russell IPM is their latest addition – Xlure HHB. With HHB standing for ham beetle and hide beetle, you soon realise which insects it is targeted at. As both these pests feed on protein products, such as meat and leather, it is ideal for use in houses, pet shops, curing houses and any place dealing with dried meats.



www.rusellipm.com

You little Rascal...

Offering everything you need, is the claim made for this new Rascal rat bait box. Side opening, it is suitable for use both indoors and out. It accommodates block bait, loose bait or a break-back trap.

Not to be outdone, the Rascal mouse bait box can hold all the market leading rodenticides. With a tamper-resistant locking system it offers a secure solution to internal baiting, whilst its internal design prevents any contact of the bait from the outside.

Both boxes can be secured with an optional wall bracket and free personalisation is also available.



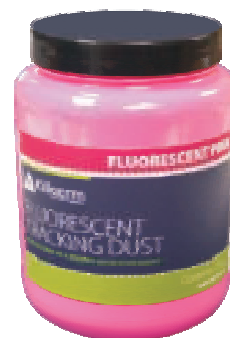
Rascal mouse box

Rascal rat box

www.1env.co.uk

In the pink

Killgerm has revamped its florescent rodent tracking dust which now comes in a pretty shade of pink. This light, non-toxic powder can be placed overnight in suspected rodent activity areas to reveal their activities the following day. For the months of October and November, for every 250g pack sold, Killgerm is donating £1 to The Breast Cancer Trust.



www.killgerm.com

New cold fogger launched

Coming from German ULV aerosol generator specialists, IGEBA, is the new Unipro 2. Made of stainless steel, the device is acid resistant and, as a modular system, it offers great flexibility in use – be it pest control, disinfection or indoor climate improvement.

As IGEBA explains: "With the UNIPRO 2 we have created a user-friendly and powerful ULV aerosol generator which combines novel technical innovations – such as the quick-coupling system for air and solution lines, tool-free maintenance and high safety standards; all contained in a compact stainless steel frame."

As with all its models, IGEBA attaches great importance to an optimal droplet spectrum for increased efficacy. Quality meets or exceeds the requirements of an excellent value to performance ratio.

www.igeba.de



Flexibility is the name of the game

Wembley-based Bower Products is introducing ten new matching fly killers under the Nano brand. Each machine complements the next – ranging from a low-cost model for smaller establishments to a large, high performance version for substantial areas. Each Nano is identical in height but the width varies with the required capacity. Available in steel or stainless steel, the Nanos can be suspended or wall-mounted. With the exception of the budget G20 model, all the Nano range come with shatter resistant lamps as standard. Both glue board and high-tension grid machines are available.

Their modern rounded appearance and intricately designed front guards – smart and pleasant look, explains Bower. The cleverly designed 'lift and lock' front guard and the spring-loaded,

removable killing grid, delivers tools-free servicing, adds



www.bower.co.uk

Rodenticides going for a jewelled approach

LODI-UK has completely revamped the packaging and naming of its rodenticide range. The company explained that the names reflect the quality of the bait – hence using jewel names.

All difenacoum products are red giving us Ruby grain, Ruby blocks and Ruby paste.

The bromadiolone products are all green, so Jade is the gem name selected for these grain and block products.

Hinting at something, LODI-UK says keep a look-out for a 'blue' product which is about to arrive.



www.lodi-uk.com



Allergen-free rodent monitoring attractants

1env Solutions is delighted to announce that the company has been selected as the exclusive distributor of the new Nara non-allergen monitoring blocks and attractants.

Made from an aromatised plastic, these blocks, unlike traditional food-based monitoring blocks, do not attract non-target species such as insects and slugs.

The Nara attractants are available in two sizes. The 'mushroom-shaped' Nara Lure is designed with mice in mind for use in break-back traps, so avoiding the use of messy attractants.

For use with both rats and mice, the Nara block can be secured in bait stations. It is an ideal modern-day monitoring device, especially in food handling and processing areas, remaining active for up to three months.

www.1env.co.uk

Time to vote for your favourite new product

best
product
award
2014
pest

The nominations have closed and it's time to have your say. Which of our fabulous finalist products has helped you the most as a pest professional?

Take a look at the nine fantastic new products short-listed by **Pest** readers and then make your selection.

You can vote for two products using the official postal voting form below or by emailing your choices to editor@pestmagazine.co.uk

Please include your name and organisation in the email.

Your second choice product will be taken into account in the event of a tie. To be counted your vote must be in before midnight on 31 October 2014. The top three products voted for by readers will be announced during PestTech at the National Motorcycle Museum on 5 November.

Trappit BB detector
from Suterra

XLure MST
from Russell IPM

Deadline Alpha Express
from Rentokil

Mini Flex flexible hose
from Lance Lab

Bird Free in magnetic dishes
from Killgerm

Quartz wasp & hornet killer
from LODI-UK

Romax Muskil whole wheat bait
from Barretline

Romax Muskil wax block
from Barretline

Romax Muskil pasta bait
from Barretline

Voting form

The new product(s) which has (have) made the largest contribution to my professional working life is (are):

1

2

Name:

Organisation:

Tel:

Email:

SEND YOUR COMPLETED FORM to Pest Magazine, Foxhill, Stanford on Soar, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE12 5PZ

- 1 Readers may vote for two products, but may only submit one voting form;
3 Votes submitted after midnight on 31 October 2014 will not be counted.

- 2 Manufacturers/distributors and their employees cannot vote for their own product.

For the legal stuff visit: www.pestmagazine.co.uk/content/newsitem.aspx?id=1090

best
product
award
2014
pest

Traps and social insects



Two new booklets in the very helpful series produced by the Charted Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH) have been published.

The first, a procedures manual, covers social insects – ants, wasps and bees. For each there is a section on identification, biology, inspection techniques and treatment methods, in both

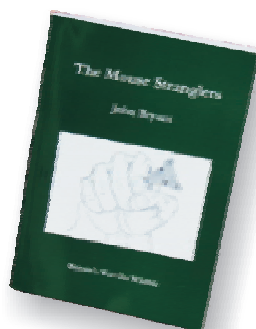
domestic and larger commercial properties. It concludes by reviewing insecticide storage and disposal.

The second is a code of practice dealing with the use of vertebrate traps. Always a complex issue, legal matters are covered and types of traps defined. One section is on methods of bird management with traps, but more attention is paid to the various methods of trapping mammals – traps, snares and glue boards. It concludes with a lengthy review of the relevant legislative Acts.

Both are available in printed form or downloadable from NPAP publications at www.cieh.org/policy/npap_publications.html

An alternative view

In his 140-page book entitled *The Mouse Stranglers* author John Bryant, who runs his own company Humane Urban Wildlife Deterrence in Kent, discusses his alternative, but no less considered, approach to pest control. In the introduction he says: "In more than 15 years of unofficial membership of the UK pest control industry, I have never harmed any mammal or bird in order to solve a problem, or at least mitigate the nuisance to the satisfaction of a client."

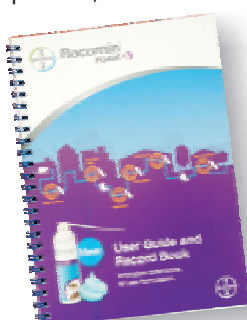


Maybe an alternative approach, but one which some pest control clients require. The book goes on to elaborate his non-lethal methods of management (rather than control) of rodents, squirrels, various birds, foxes, rabbits and badgers. Quite how he would approach any insect pest is not addressed. Along the way he references and 'points the finger' at several articles from the professional pest control press, including *Pest*.

Copies at £12 including P&P from jbwildanimals@aol.com

User guide for Racumin Foam

To accompany the launch of Racumin Foam, Bayer has introduced a handy little user guide and record book. It discusses the rodent problem, rodent behaviour – both rats and mice – and then goes on to explain how and where to use Racumin Foam. In addition there is a section promoting the use of first-generation rodenticides as a part of an integrated pest management approach.



It concludes with pages of practical maps, record keeping, a COSHH site assessment form and a series of Q&As.

Copies from Bayer at pestcontrol-expert@bayercropscience.com

Take the Pest Test

BASIS has made two PROMPT CPD points available if you can demonstrate that you have improved your knowledge, understanding and technical know-how by passing the **Pest Test** and answering all our questions correctly. So read through our articles on the bird licence changes (pages 14-16), rodent watch (pages 27-29), dust mites (pages 30-31) and aluminium phosphide (page 36) in this issue of *Pest* and answer the questions below. Try to answer them all in one sitting and without referring back to the articles.

SEND COMPLETED QUESTIONS to: *Pest* Magazine, Foxhill, Stanford on Soar, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE12 5PZ.

We will mark your **Pest Test** and, if all answers are correct, we will enter the results onto your PROMPT records held by BASIS.

- 1 Which bird species has been added to the General Licence (GL) WML-GL04?

<input type="checkbox"/> a) Jackdaw	<input type="checkbox"/> c) Jay
<input type="checkbox"/> b) Collared dove	<input type="checkbox"/> d) Egyptian goose
- 2 Pied wagtail, blue tit and song thrush have been added to the Food premises Class Licence CL WML-CL03 so permitting them to

<input type="checkbox"/> a) Be trapped and released	<input type="checkbox"/> c) Be trapped and despatched
<input type="checkbox"/> b) Be shot	<input type="checkbox"/> d) Be chased out of the building
- 3 What does Sharon Hughes believe to be one of the main reasons for rodent control failures?

<input type="checkbox"/> a) Feeding rodents with too much non-toxic bait	<input type="checkbox"/> c) Under-baiting
<input type="checkbox"/> b) Resistance	<input type="checkbox"/> d) Over-baiting
- 4 What percentage of pest professionals in the BASF/*Pest* survey say they seldom or never use non-toxic baits around buildings?

<input type="checkbox"/> a) 98%	<input type="checkbox"/> c) 62%
<input type="checkbox"/> b) 90%	<input type="checkbox"/> d) 61%
- 5 What conditions favour dust mites?

<input type="checkbox"/> a) Low humidity and constant warmth	<input type="checkbox"/> c) Low humidity and cool temperatures
<input type="checkbox"/> b) High humidity and constant warmth	<input type="checkbox"/> d) High humidity and cool temperatures
- 6 By what date must aluminium phosphide users have acquired a certificate of competence?

<input type="checkbox"/> a) 6 November 2014	<input type="checkbox"/> c) 6 November 2015
<input type="checkbox"/> b) 26 November 2014	<input type="checkbox"/> d) 26 November 2015


Name: _____

Organisation: _____

Tel: _____

Email: _____

PROMPT account number: 200 _____



In a changing
World...

... the solutions are at PARASITEC 2014
free registration & informations on the website
www.parasitec.org



Diary dates 2014

5 November

PestTech 2014

National Motor Cycle Museum, Birmingham

www.pesttech.org.uk

19-21 November

Parasitec 2014

Espace Champerret, Paris, France

www.parasitec.org/index.php/en

20 November

SOFHT Annual Lunch & Lecture 2014

The Savoy, London

www.sofht.co.uk/events/sofht-lecture-annual-lunch-awards-2014/

2015

7-9 January

Global Bed Bug Summit 2015

Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Denver, Colorado, USA

www.npmapestworld.org/events/BedBugSummit

23-26 February

7th European Mosquito Control Association workshop

Valencia, Spain

www.emca-online.eu/sites/visitors/news/latest.html

11-12 March

Disinfestando 2015

Palacongressi, Rimini, Italy

www.disinfestazione.org/



Countdown begins

PestEx organisers, the British Pest Control Association (BPCA), report that they have made room for even more exhibitors at next year's event which will take place on Wednesday 25 and Thursday 26 March 2015 at the ExCel Exhibition Centre in London.

PestEx regularly attracts visitors and exhibitors from around all the world. In addition to the anticipated 100 exhibitors, PestEx 2015 will also stage a number of seminar and technical sessions designed to keep visitors up-to-date with the latest industry news, legislation, developments, products and innovations, say BPCA.

BPCA chief executive, Simon Forrester, commented: "In 2013 we were slightly caught-out by demand from exhibitors and visitors. Manufacturers from across the globe clearly see PestEx as the place to launch new products and pest controllers know that PestEx is the place to pick-up details on the key innovations, research and best practice. So to meet the growing demand, we have squeezed in a few more stands and seminar sessions into next year's event."

Any company thinking of exhibiting is urged to contact the organisers as space is running-out fast. To save time queuing, visitors can pre-register for free on the website at www.pestex.org



Pest Management examiners required

The RSPH is currently looking for experienced pest controllers to join its pool of examiners.

RSPH
ROYAL SOCIETY FOR PUBLIC HEALTH
VISION, VOICE AND PRACTICE

Duties will include writing and reviewing examination questions, compiling examination papers from question banks, reviewing examination papers and marking candidate scripts.

Interested?

If you would like to become an examiner for our suite of pest management qualifications send your CV to Richard Burton, Head of Qualifications Development, at rburton@rspgh.org.uk

Examiners will not be able to carry out training for any of the RSPH qualifications that they are involved in examining. It is a condition of Ofqual, the regulator for accredited awarding organisations, that examiners should not carry out training for any of the qualifications that they examine.

www.rspgh.org.uk Twitter: @R_S_P_H Facebook: Royal Society for Public Health LinkedIn: Royal Society for Public Health

EASY TO INSTALL
LOW PROFILE DISHES

小島 **BIRD FREE®**

NOT A SPIKE OR WIRE IN SIGHT!

Also referred to as **Optical Gel®** or **Fire Gel®**, clients like 小島 Bird Free because it is discreet, yet effective; installers like it because the pre-dosed dishes are quick and easy to apply, and make for a neat and uniform finish.

WHAT OUR CUSTOMERS SAY

"We have been using Bird Free since 2011, and have found each new version to be an improvement on the previous one. We now use 小島 Bird Free in the majority of our bird control work, and have some customers who specify it by name."

Glenn Elliott, Contracts Manager, Cannon Pest Control Northern Ireland.

"We have used all three versions of 小島 Bird Free over the last few years, and have found the pre-dosed version much easier to use, especially where it needs to be installed at height, or applied vertically. It also makes for a neater and cleaner finish than the previous versions."

Mark Hobbs, Surveyor, Cleankill (Environmental Services) Ltd, Croydon.

"We have always found 小島 Bird Free to be effective, and the new pre-dosed version makes our work a lot easier. We regularly make follow-up visits to our clients' sites, and have found that the pre-dosed 小島 Bird Free maintains its shape and appearance very well over time."

Craig Nickless, Managing Director, ERS Environmental Services, Aylesbury.



Protecting the
urban environment

Bird Free Ltd
t +44 207 359 9988
e ian.smith@bird-free.com
www.bird-free.com

**15 x 8mm low
profile dishes
per pack**



EXCLUSIVELY DISTRIBUTED BY:

Killgerm Chemicals Ltd., P.O. Box 2, Ossett, W. Yorks. WF5 9NA.

t 01924 268400 f 01924 264757 e info@killgerm.com www.killgerm.com