Changes to Rodenticide use under UK law

Due to changes in Legislation & Product Labelling, the application of rodenticide externally will change in the coming months.

New Product Labels with Stewardship Conditions will be in place by May 31st 2016. Pestokill have committed to start the changeover now to non toxic indicator blocks where there is no activity evident and we aim to complete this by the end of April 2016.

What does this mean to you?

Rodenticide can no longer be permanently placed in external rat boxes for long term monitoring purposes. Where there is rodent activity found through active monitoring Rodenticide will be introduced to control the local infestation. Control should aim to be completed within 35 days, when the rodenticide should be removed and active monitoring will continue.

All existing external rat boxes on a service frequency of less than 12 visits (35 days) We will use non-toxic monitoring blocks, when activity is detected we will change over to rodenticide and complete follow up’s until complete (ideally within 35 days). Where Monitoring indicates no long term activity, non toxic monitoring will continue.

In all cases prior to application of Rodenticide we will carry out an Environmental Risk Assessment to justify the most suitable and safest application with the wider environment and non target Species in mind.

In some cases we may need to increase the service visit frequency of Rat Boxes on site, our preferred option will be 16 visits per annum (every 21 to 28 days) which means that should rodenticide be employed on a routine visit, we are within the label requirement of 35 day use of rodenticide.

On all sites it will be essential to reduce the Rodent Carrying capacity of the site by improving Hygiene, Proofing, Food/Water Supply and Harbourage opportunities to support our control Strategy.

On the Upside

These changes now allow the use of Single feed rodenticide ‘In and around buildings’ which means that where infestations occur they will be eradicated much quicker. There is also no known resistance in the UK to single feed rodenticides.

Why has this been brought in?

Ultimately the aim is to reduce secondary poisoning for non target species, you may hear two terms ‘CRRU’ Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use, http://www.thinkwildlife.org/about-crru/ & ‘SGARs’ Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides, these changes are brought about under The Control of Pesticide Regulations ‘COPR’ (UK Law) and Biocidal Product Regulations (European Law).

The HSE is the UK competent authority for the above Regulations and as such will enforce them.

For further information contact your Pestokill local surveyor or contact our National Training Manager Chris Woodward chriswoodward@pestokill.co.uk