

STEWARDSHIP

PRODUCTS AUTHORISED BY HSE FOR USE UNDER THE UK RODENTICIDE STEWARDSHIP REGIME

Introduction

Rodents can carry diseases that can harm people, cause damage to buildings and spoil foodstuffs, and rodenticides are one of the methods of controlling rodents. However, there can also be potential risks to people and the environment from the use of anticoagulant rodenticide products. HSE is seeking to establish a transparent and consistent approach for applying risk mitigation measures when First and Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (FGARs and SGARs) are authorised in the UK. This should take into account the need to control rat and mouse infestations, and protect buildings and infrastructure while protecting humans and non-target wildlife from exposure to FGARs and SGARs.

Professional use products and UK stewardship

Regulatory environmental risk assessments have concluded that the use of First and Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (FGARs and SGARs) outdoors present a higher level of risk to non-target animals (such as predatory birds and mammals) than would normally be considered acceptable. However HSE recognises that, despite carrying these risks, outdoor use of FGARs and SGARs is sometimes necessary as part of properly managed rodent control strategies.

In order to be able to authorise these rodenticides for use outdoors, HSE must be assured that the risks arising from such use will be properly managed. The UK Government Oversight Group has set out a number of high-level principles to help industry develop stewardship schemes to assure that rodenticides are being used in a safe and sustainable way.

Timelines for stewardship regime

Professional use products for which manufacturers **have** applied for professional outdoor use stewardship authorisation:

- Remaining stocks of products with pre-stewardship labels can be sold until **30 September 2016** and must be used by **31 March 2017**. A certificate of professional competence is not required to buy and use these products.