

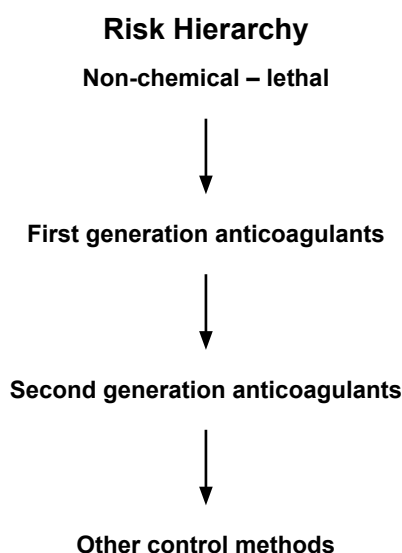
VERMIN CONTROL

Site Survey

A site survey is a record of every inspection and/or survey undertaken; inspecting the farm for signs of rodent activity or environmental management requirements. The site survey must outline the following:

- Date of inspection
- Locations inspected
- Findings (including type, level and extent of infestation and all potential opportunities e.g. feed spills/gaps/habitats)
- Actions required (including what needs to be completed and by whom)
- Date completed (initials to verify)

Where the site survey identifies a rodent infestation, the concept of a 'risk hierarchy' must be used when considering the rodent control strategy. This means considering the use of non-chemical control methods first, followed by the least toxic alternatives.



Environmental Risk Assessment

Where actions are identified as part of the site survey which involve the use of rodenticides, an environmental risk assessment must be carried out. The risk assessment must cover the following:

- What the treatment is designed to achieve, what methods of rodent control will be used and how success will be measured
- Which non-target species may be present in or near the treatment site
- What steps have been/will be taken to prevent, or adequately control, exposure of wildlife/domestic pets and the environment
- How dead rodents and rodenticides will be disposed of
- Once the infestation has been removed/controlled, what measures can be implemented to prevent re-infestation

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Bait Plan

A plan must be in place to control vermin and records must be kept of baits used and checks made. The plan should be completed by the person with responsibility for vermin management and must be kept up-to-date. The plan must be kept for 2 years following changes.

The bait plan must cover the following:

- Map of bait point locations
- Bait used
- Bait point inspection and replenishment dates

COSHH Assessment

The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (the COSHH assessment) requires assessments are carried out to identify any risks to operators and others who may be affected by treatments involving hazardous substances. The Health and Safety Executive provide an e-tool for completing the COSHH assessment, which can be found here: <http://coshh-tool.hse.gov.uk/>.

More information on responsible rodenticide use can be found at <http://www.ahdb.org.uk/projects/documents/LRAHDBRodentStrategyGuide2016.pdf>