

LANCU48 - SQA Unit Code D9KF 04

Control vertebrate pest populations using chemical means



Overview

This standard describes your role in controlling vertebrate pests. It relates to the work activities that you undertake to control vertebrate pests using chemical means. It is aimed at those who work in game conservation and wildlife management on either a full or part-time basis.

You will be able to

1. identify the presence of vertebrate pests
2. legally apply and monitor chemical control measures

This standard does not replace the need for individuals to receive training in the use of chemical pest controls.

3. Monitor the incidence of vertebrate pest populations
4. Control vertebrate pest populations using chemical means

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

Monitor the incidence of vertebrate pest populations

- P1 carry out work safely in line with health and safety requirements
- P2 interpret **signs** to estimate vertebrate pest population levels
- P3 identify the presence of non-target species
- P4 select a control method appropriate to the vertebrate pests, the characteristics of the site and its location

You must be able to:

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- P5 carry out work safely in line with health and safety requirements
- P6 develop a regime to control the application of chemical agents
- P7 set-up and maintain the necessary equipment to effectively control application of chemicals according to manufacturers' recommendations
- P8 handle and use chemicals safely and efficiently according to manufacturers' recommendations
- P9 implement controls in a manner which minimises the risk to non-target species and the environment
- P10 monitor the effectiveness of the control method
- P11 dispose of any corpses and spent materials according to legal requirements
- P12 take appropriate action when **problems** arise during pest control activities
- P13 maintain accurate vertebrate pest control records

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

Monitor the incidence of vertebrate pest populations

- K1 the individual's specific responsibilities under environmental and conservation legislation in relation to monitoring and controlling pests
- K2 how to identify common pest species
- K3 the characteristics of different pests and their potential impact on the estate activities
- K4 behavioural characteristics of vertebrate pests that influence the control method selected
- K5 the effects of the seasons and weather conditions on monitoring pest populations
- K6 how monitoring is adapted to take account of the seasons
- K7 the legal requirements controlling pest control using chemical agents
- K8 the health and safety requirements associated with pest control

You need to know and understand:

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- K9 health and safety risks associated with the control of vertebrate pests using chemical means
- K10 how the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Act controls the use of chemicals
- K11 legal restrictions on the use of chemicals including the certificates and training required before chemicals can be used
- K12 individual's specific responsibilities under environmental and conservation legislation in relation to controlling pests
- K13 common vertebrate pest species and the significance of their presence
- K14 characteristics of different vertebrate pest species and their potential effects on sites
- K15 the effects of vertebrate pests on animal/plant populations
- K16 the legal requirements controlling the disposal of pests and waste
- K17 how behavioural characteristics of vertebrate pests are used to support the control method
- K18 the effects of the seasons and weather conditions on controlling pest populations
- K19 how to adapt pest control methods to take account of changes in the weather
- K20 why it is important to control the application of chemicals for non-target species
- K21 the importance of keeping accurate up-to-date pest control records
- K22 how to monitor the effectiveness of the control methods
- K23 the appropriate action to take when problems arise during vertebrate pest control

Additional Information

Scope/range

1. Interpret signs such as
 - 1.1. direct sightings
 - 1.2. runs
 - 1.3. footprints
 - 1.4. damage to habitat
 - 1.5. dead animals
 - 1.6. kills
 - 1.7. sounds
 - 1.8. smells
 - 1.9. droppings

2. Take action to deal with at least one of the following problems
 - 2.1. chemical spillage
 - 2.2. malfunction of equipment
 - 2.3. changes in environmental conditions

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Glossary

For you to fully understand the content of the standard, and the activities it describes, it is important that you are able to understand the terms used within the standard. The definitions below should help you with this.

Vertebrate pests

For example rabbits, moles, mice, rats

Chemical means

Legal poisons

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