

New employees – rules to allow trainees use rodenticides for a period of grace under direct supervision whilst awaiting formal training.

All trained professional users are required to register as a Pest Management Trained Professional User (PMU) to allow them purchase and use rodenticide product under the new rules. Full registration is obtained after completion of the relevant training courses and completing the required Supervision in field pest control techniques.

To allow new entrants to the industry train as a PMU, there will be a **9 month grace period**¹ to allow the trainee gain necessary experience/mentoring and complete formal training in pest management. New entrants need to apply to DAFM for a conditional PMU Number and must submit the following documents;

- Training plan
- Proof of registration for an Ofqual Level 3 (or equivalent) qualification in pest management.

The trainee **must** submit the certificate from a Level 3 Ofqual qualification or equivalent in pest management within 9 months¹ of commencing employment. Failure to submit the documentation will result in revocation of conditional PMU Number and the trainee can no longer legally use rodenticide for professional or trained professional use.

Training record requirements

The trainee needs to spend a minimum of 2 weeks field training working directly with a PMU (with at least 2 years' experience) as part of their training plan; these 2 weeks do not include office based training. After the 2 week period, the trainee can work with indirect supervision for applications which their supervisor has deemed them competent to carry out with limited supervision. The Trainee can **ONLY** carry out repeat visits. The Trainee **CANNOT** conduct site assessments until registered as a full PMU.

Training records need to be kept by the employer during this grace period and should be available to DAFM for inspection on request.

The trainee must firstly *observe* a PMU carry out safe application of biocidal products in a particular application method/technique and then demonstrate safe application of biocidal product **under direct supervision** for that application method on a **minimum of four** separate sites before the trainee can carry out repeat visits **ONLY** for this particular application with indirect supervision/support from a PMU. E.g.;

- 4 applications of rodenticide at different sites indoors for mice/rats
- 4 applications of rodenticides at different sites around buildings for rats/mice
- 4 applications of rodenticides at different sites in open areas for rats/mice
- 4 applications of insecticide in different sites for crack and crevice treatment
- 4 applications of insecticides in different sites for treatment of flying insects

Training records need to be maintained to prove the trainee observed and demonstrated on four separate occasions the safe application of biocidal products under direct supervision. The records should be co-signed by the trainee and trainer. There should be one form for each type of application/technique for invertebrates carried out by your business, i.e., flying insects, textiles, crack & crevice etc. and one form for each type of rodent treatment, i.e., rodents indoors, rodents around buildings, rodents open areas.

See below draft template detailing minimum level of record information required for new entrants. This document can be used if you don't have your own system of recording training.

¹ Can be extended for a period, up to the next available examination if no courses are available within 9 months.

Training record – Sign-off to allow a trainee work with reduced supervision for repeat visits

TRAINEE Name		Employee No / PMU No	
TRAINER Name		PMU No	
<i>Technique/Target organism*</i>		Date Commenced employment	

Trainee must demonstrate the safe application of biocides under direct supervision.

Step No	Details	Site/location/report no Sign/Date	Trainee Sign/Date	Trainer Sign/Date
1	Trainee reads and understands the relevant reading material			
2	Procedure(s), operation, technique explained by trainer			
3	Trainee observes the trainer performing the procedure, operation, technique.			
4	First Time - Trainer observes the trainee carrying out the Operation, Procedure, Technique.			
5	Second Time - Trainer observes the trainee carrying out the Operation, Procedure, Technique			
6	Third Time - Trainer observes the trainee carrying out the Operation, Procedure, Technique.			
7	Fourth Time - Trainer observes the trainee carrying out the Operation, Procedure, Technique			

ASSOCIATED Trainee Reading/Training/Identification per treatment listed above, tick on completion.

TITLE	No 1	No 2	No 3	No 4
Pest Identification				
Equipment choice, use and maintenance				
Understanding biocide labels and SDS				
PPE				
Pesticide preparation, handling and application				
Dealing with spills				

		Trainee - Sign/Date	Trainer - Sign/Date
8	Trainee is deemed competent to perform this procedure with indirect supervision		
9	Completion of OFqual Level 3		
10	Trainee deemed competent to work unsupervised on completion of Level 3 in Pest Management		

*This form is to be completed for each method of application. Additional forms need to be completed for other methods of applications. Only to be signed off by supervisor when deemed competent, additional training may be required.

Required Skills

1. Identifying Pest

The trainee must accurately identify the type of pest, assess the condition of the environment, identify the activity level, location of pest harbourages, and level of infestation.

2. Pesticide and Equipment choice, use and maintenance

The trainee must be able to determine the most relevant, cost effective and practical approach that is acceptable to the client and involves the lowest level of risk to client, operator and environment, and ensure that the equipment chosen is appropriate to this approach. The trainee must ensure that the biocidal product selected is a suitable, registered biocide for the identified pest and use area, and appropriate to the pest control method chosen. The trainee must demonstrate that he/she can maintain the equipment used and use it in a manner for which it was designed.

3. Understanding labels and SDS

The trainee must be able to access SDSs, and accurately interpret information given as it relates to a situation. The trainee must be able to interpret information on labels and relate this to the job, i.e. must select the appropriate PPE, use the correct methodology for preparing chemicals, apply the biocides in the prescribed manner, and identify spill procedure and disposal methods. The trainee must be able to access up to date instructions and procedures for all biocides and equipment being used (both statutory and manufacturer's instructions), and accurately interpret information given as it relates to a situation.

4. Choice and use of PPE.

PPE must be maintained in a safe and clean condition in accordance with relevant legislation and company policy. The trainee must demonstrate correct choice of appropriate PPE and know how to store and maintain this equipment to minimise risk of exposure and contamination to himself/herself

5. Biocidal product preparation, handling and application

Hazards associated with the application of the biocides must be determined, correct equipment selected to minimise risk, and equipment utilised in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. This relates to the correct interpretation of SDS and biocide label. The trainee must be able to safely process biocidal formulations, strictly adhering to manufacturer's instructions, using appropriate PPE and processing biocides in an appropriate location to minimise risk of exposure and contamination.

The trainee must be able to accurately determine the correct method of application and chemicals must be applied in accordance with manufacturer's instructions, legislative requirements and company policy. The trainee must be able to minimise contamination of areas not being treated, and put site control measures in place until the area is suitable for re-use. Emergencies must be responded to in accordance with relevant legislation, SDS and company procedures. The client must be provided with all appropriate site maintenance and preventative documentation.

6. Dealing with spills

The trainee must be able to assess the risk posed by a spill, and use the spill kit. All accidental spillages must be documented, removed safely from the site and disposed of in accordance with relevant legislation and company policy.