

# ASTPC01

## Assess a site



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### Overview

This standard is about what you need to know and do in order to assess a site prior to treatment and recommend action to be taken.

It includes assessing and reporting on the nature and extent of the infestation, identifying hazards that may pose a threat to you, those around you and the environment, deciding on an appropriate course of action to eliminate the infestation, and providing advice to the customer on methods of reducing a repeat infestation.

This standard is for pest management practitioners.

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### Performance criteria

#### Assess and report on the nature and extent of the infestation

*You must be able to:*

- P1 check requirements with senior manager(s) and identify any previous data on the site and the customer from records
- P2 agree arrangements for site assessment with interested parties
- P3 attend the site with correct documentation, equipment and clothing
- P4 obtain accurate information on-site regarding the nature and extent of the activity, its history and any previous treatments
- P5 carry out the assessment systematically, accurately, safely and in accordance with relevant industry standards and Codes of Practice
- P6 correctly identify and assess the nature, extent and the source of the activity
- P7 assess whether there are actual or potential breaches of legislation and significant consequential risks likely to arise from a failure to deal with the activity
- P8 maintain safe and hygienic practices during the site assessment to protect the technician, customers, members of the public, non-target species and the environment
- P9 in accordance with organisational procedures, provide interested parties (as appropriate) with a complete and accurate report including an assessment of the nature, source and extent of activity and the actual or potential damage
- P10 qualify findings in the report where circumstances have prevented a full assessment being carried out

#### Identify hazards to people, the environment and property arising from activities

*You must be able to:*

- P11 check that responsibilities for pest management activities are clearly defined and understood by all concerned parties on the site
- P12 carry out a suitable and sufficient risk assessment
- P13 identify all hazards and potentially hazardous situations which could arise from the activities for which you have responsibility and from interaction with activities by others, on or adjacent to, the site
- P14 identify effective means of minimising risk within your own control and where others must take responsibility for action
- P15 review with the customer any relevant historical information about the site to establish potential hazards
- P16 obtain appropriate advice where the situation presents problems beyond own experience and where controlling the activities of others is outside own level of authority

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- P17 where appropriate, prepare a risk assessment report which accurately identifies the hazards on site and associated level of risk both with the site and with the selected method of treatment and cost effective means to be taken to minimise the risk

### **Advise on and agree a course of action**

*You must be able to:*

- P18 check that survey data and other information relating to the site and the nature and extent of activity is valid, accurate and sufficient to make a decision on treatment methods
- P19 select effective methods of treatment which are most likely to achieve and sustain elimination of the identified pest(s) and which minimise potential risk(s) to the technician, customers, members of the public, non-target species and the environment
- P20 check that the treatment method(s) selected complies with current industry best practice and relevant legislation
- P21 accurately estimate the resource requirements and timescales required for the selected treatment in accordance with organisational guidelines
- P22 advise interested parties of the implications of using the selected treatment method(s) and confirm its acceptability
- P23 where necessary prepare, in accordance with organisational procedures, an accurate written specification of the agreed treatment method which is sufficient for estimating and planning purposes and which incorporates relevant information regarding hazard, health and safety risks and environmental impact

### **Advise on environmental management**

*You must be able to:*

- P24 from available site assessment and risk assessment data, advise the customer of the consequences of a failure to identify and eliminate pests
- P25 advise the customer of hygiene measures which will assist in minimising the risks of infestation
- P26 advise the customer on regular maintenance and housekeeping measures which will assist in minimising the risks of infestation
- P27 advise the customer on appropriate proofing measures which will assist in minimising the risks of infestation
- P28 advise the customer on appropriate systems and procedures for the periodic monitoring of their site(s) for infestation
- P29 prepare estimates for the customer of likely resources involved in the effective environmental management on their site(s)
- P30 in accordance with organisational policies and procedures, recommend sources of expert help on environmental management

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### Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

#### Health & safety

- K1 current health and safety legislation and industry Codes of Practice
- K2 measures for protecting the public
- K3 measures for protecting the environment
- K4 safe use and maintenance of equipment
- K5 requirements for Personal Protective Equipment

#### Environment

*You need to know and understand:*

- K6 impact of environmental issues on pest management
- K7 environmental good practice
- K8 changes in environmental conditions

#### Risk assessment

*You need to know and understand:*

- K9 methods of hazard identification
- K10 how to access relevant information on accidents and incidents and associated case material
- K11 how to assess potential consequences of risks singly or in combination
- K12 how to prepare risk assessment reports

#### Identification

*You need to know and understand:*

- K13 species vertebrate and invertebrate pests and predators and their prevalence, physical, behavioural and lifecycle characteristics
- K14 signs left by target and non-target species such as direct sightings, runs, footprints, damage to habitat, dead animals, kills, sounds, smells and droppings
- K15 how to recognise signs of infestation
- K16 how to observe and identify sources of infestation
- K17 how to assess extent of infestation
- K18 how to assess actual damage
- K19 how to estimate risk of potential damage
- K20 how to evaluate potential

#### Survey data

*You need to know and understand:*

- K21 information required before visit to a site
- K22 documentary sources of information about types of infestation
- K23 type and amount of data that should be gathered on site

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- K24 how to record survey data
- K25 how to interpret survey data
- K26 how to present and report survey findings

### Survey methods

*You need to know and understand:*

- K27 types of survey relevant to vertebrate pests, and invertebrate pests
- K28 types of survey equipment and protective clothing relevant to different types of survey method
- K29 how to survey a site systematically
- K30 the range of monitoring devices and their strengths and weaknesses

### Treatments

*You need to know and understand:*

- K31 the range of treatments and formulations available, their advantages and disadvantages and the hazards associated with their use
- K32 the optimum circumstances for their use and circumstances when their use would be inappropriate or illegal
- K33 associated health, safety and hygiene practices
- K34 reasons for seeking permission and from whom, consequences of failure to gain permission including permit to work
- K35 how to carry out a risk assessment
- K36 how to work to a method statement
- K37 how to write a method statement

### Infestation

*You need to know and understand:*

- K38 how to assess the consequences of infestations relating to vertebrate pests, and invertebrate pests in domestic premises, general industrial / commercial premises, food manufacturing / storage / retailing premises, agricultural / horticultural environment and public buildings (including health and education premises)

### Legislation

*You need to know and understand:*

- K39 relevant legislation on pests in relation to public health, food safety, animal welfare,
- K40 legislation and codes of practice in relation to use of firearms, traps, snares, chemicals, hazardous substances, the environment and conservation

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### Measures

*You need to know and understand:* K41 preventative measures relevant to pest groups in terms of hygiene, housekeeping and maintenance, proofing

### Monitoring

*You need to know and understand:* K42 types of monitoring system relevant to different pest groups  
K43 who to report problems to

### Estimating

*You need to know and understand:* K44 methods of estimating costs involved in environmental management

### Guidance

*You need to know and understand:* K45 sources of expert help

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### Additional Information

- Scope/range
- 1 sites/locations:
    - 1.1 domestic
    - 1.2 commercial
    - 1.3 indoors
    - 1.4 outdoors
    - 1.5 urban
    - 1.6 rural
  - 2 keep interested parties informed:
    - 2.1 manager
    - 2.3 customer
    - 2.4 others who may need to be notified
  - 3 assess different types of infestation:
    - 3.1 vertebrate pests
    - 3.2 invertebrate pests
    - 3.3 interior infestations
    - 3.4 exterior infestations
  - 4 identify hazards:
    - 4.1 situations with a potential to injure people, cause ill-health or damage property
    - 4.2 activities likely to affect adversely the built and natural environment including non-target species
  - 5 minimise risk associated with:
    - 5.2 site investigation
    - 5.3 treatment and environmental management
    - 5.4 reinstatement

NOTE: The nature of hazard identification and risk management will vary from site to site
  - 6 select treatments:
    - 6.1 chemical control measures

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6.2 non-chemical control  
measures

- 7 range of pests:
  - 7.1 vertebrate pests
  - 7.2 invertebrate pests
  
- 8 assess the implications:
  - 8.1 resources
  - 8.2 work planning
  - 8.3 hazards and risks
  - 8.4 disruption/inconvenience
  - 8.5 timescale
  
- 9 communicate with customers:
  - 9.1 domestic
  - 9.2 commercial
  
- 10 utilise sources of expert help:
  - 10.1 internal
  - 10.2 external



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**Relevant occupations** Pest Management Practitioners

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**Suite** Pest Management

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