
Overview

This standard covers the safe and effective elimination of infestations caused by the following pest groups:

1. Vertebrate pests
2. Invertebrate pests

It includes identifying the nature of the infestation and appropriate treatment, carrying out a treatment programme and the additional activities this requires, maintaining environmental management at the site in order to prevent a re-infestation, completing the treatment programme and monitoring the site to review the success of the treatment.

This standard is for pest management practitioners.

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Performance criteria

Review the nature of infestation or nuisance

- You must be able to:*
- P1 review and verify data from assessments on the reported extent and severity of activity
 - P2 correctly identify and assess all signs of pest activity on the site
 - P3 accurately identify factors which contribute to the infestation
 - P4 identify constraints relating to the application of elimination measures
 - P5 assess risks associated with continuing infestation
 - P6 in accordance with organisational procedures, prepare and propose to the customer an effective strategy which takes account of all relevant data
 - P7 in accordance with organisational procedures, record assessment reports, treatments and monitor arrangements

Apply treatments or management techniques

- You must be able to:*
- P8 select treatments or management techniques which are the most effective for the site, type and level of infestation; and which minimise risk to self, others, and the environment and minimise risk to non-target species
 - P9 select control or management techniques which reflect known aspects of the biology, life cycle and behaviour of the target species, known site factors and any previous history of infestation
 - P10 select materials, tools and equipment which are fit for purpose and sufficient for planned treatment
 - P11 ensure, during the course of treatment, that appropriate health and safety measures are taken to protect self and others, non-target species and the environment
 - P12 carry out treatments or management techniques correctly, in accordance with manufacturers instructions, industry Codes of Practice and organisational procedures
 - P13 release non-target species in accordance with Industry Codes of Practice, organisational procedures and legal requirements
 - P14 carry out the disposal of waste in accordance with industry codes of practice and organisational procedures
 - P15 ensure the customer and relevant authorities are aware of the type of treatment being carried out, the location of equipment and materials placed on site and that they understand any associated risks
 - P16 re-visit the site with sufficient frequency to meet the monitoring requirements for the type of treatment or management technique selected and make necessary and appropriate adjustments to management measures
 - P17 carry out follow-up treatments to take full account of the type and success of earlier control measures

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- P18 maintain accurate and complete records of the treatment carried out, the location of all equipment and materials placed and of any additional action to be taken

Manage location against pests

You must be able to:

- P19 assess accurately environmental factors, structural defects and hygiene problems on the site, taking full account of available assessment and monitoring data and previous history of
- P20 infestation and treatments
- P21 ensure that effective action on proofing, hygiene, environmental management and deterrent devices is recommended, specified clearly and agreed
- P22 ensure that effective works on proofing, hygiene and environmental management within the capability of the technician, are recommended and agreed clearly with the customer
- P23 where the assessment indicates the need for specialist contractors, make recommendations to the customer, in accordance with organisational policies and procedures
- P24 ensure that materials, tools and equipment (including for access) selected are fit for purpose and sufficient for proofing, hygiene and environmental management measures being introduced
- P25 take appropriate safety measures to protect self and others, non-target species, plants, crops and the environment, during the course of placing devices, proofing and improving hygiene
- P26 carry out placing deterrent devices, proofing and hygiene measures safely, thoroughly and systematically, in accordance with manufacturers instructions, industry Codes of Practice and organisational procedures
- P27 re-visit the site at agreed intervals to monitor the effectiveness of environmental management techniques, proofing devices, hygiene measures introduced and assess and agree with the customer any additional action to be taken
- P28 maintain accurate and complete records of site assessments, proofing, hygiene and environmental control measures in place, and of periodic site monitoring

Re-instate location on completion of treatment

You must be able to:

- P29 remove safely from the site and account for all materials, tools, equipment and waste, in accordance with organisational procedures
- P30 clearly advise customer of location of materials and equipment left on site for continuing treatment and monitoring purposes and any relevant handling and safety instructions
- P31 ensure that any follow up action to be undertaken by customer and others is fully understood, agreed and confirmed in writing, in

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accordance with organisational procedures

Monitor and report on treatment or management measures

You must be able to:

- P32 agree with the customer a periodic monitoring plan, which is appropriate to the characteristics and history of activity and elimination methods used on the site and the potential risks
- P33 of re-infestation
- P34 carry out monitoring using appropriate equipment thoroughly and systematically, in accordance with customer agreement and organisational procedures
- P35 ensure that assessment of monitoring data takes full account of supplementary information from the customer and other relevant sources
- P36 prepare complete and accurate monitoring reports, in accordance with organisational procedures
- P37 justify and clearly explain to the customer all necessary follow up actions, in accordance with organisational procedures

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

Health and safety

- K1 current, relevant Health and Safety legislation including in relation to shooting
- K2 site specific hazards and risks
- K3 hazards presented by pests in relation to disease, structural damage, human reaction, damage and contamination of food and environment
- K4 disease or personal injury that can be caused by handling dead animals and how to minimise them
- K5 relevant licence requirements
- K6 Identification of pests
- K7 species of pests and predators and their prevalence, identification, biology and behaviour
- K8 signs left by target and non-target species including direct sightings, runs, footprints, damage to habitat, dead animals, kills, sounds, smells and droppings

Site investigation

You need to know and understand:

- K9 how to investigate building service systems
- K10 how to investigate underground services systems
- K11 how to carry out a risk assessment
- K12 how to collect data and develop an effective and safe elimination strategy
- K13 how to report findings
- K14 how to undertake a safe survey
- K15 how to question customers effectively
- K16 how to collate data and develop an effective and safe management strategy
- K17 how to show sensitivity to public opinion
- K18 how to complete accurate reports
- K19 whether a problem is endemic or supply related
- K20 the influence of environmental conditions and importance of hygiene methods and procedures

Treatments for infestation or nuisance

You need to know and understand:

- K21 mortality levels of pesticide formulations, their application methods – advantages and disadvantages
- K22 equipment to control the application of chemicals
- K23 certificates and training required before chemicals can be used
- K24 trapping regime and methods, including selecting suitable location, number and type, securing, pre-baiting, monitoring, maintaining in working order
- K25

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- K26 the impact of trapping on non-target species
- K27 how to handle pesticides, tools and equipment
- K28 how to prevent access to treatments by non-target species
- K29 how to apply physical methods of control
- K30 shooting regime and methods, including selecting firearms and ammunition and situations where shooting may become unsafe or must be stopped
- K31 how to modify different environments to reduce pest numbers
- K32 reasons for treatment failure
- K33 recording procedures
- K34 how to use PPE correctly
- K35 the frequency of site visits
- K36 how to safely handle, store and transport weapons
- K37 methods of despatch and how to approach, handle and despatch trapped or wounded vertebrate pests humanely
- K38 how to carry out post inspection checks
- K39 how to reinstate installation failures
- K40 how to release non-target species
- K41 how to handle and use access equipment safely and comply with regulations
- K42 when and why to consider adverse weather conditions

Proofing against pests

You need to know and understand:

- K43 target and non-target species behaviour, sources of food, harbourage and likely access points
- K44 proofing devices and their application
- K45 the constraints imposed by activities and processes on sites
- K46 how to remove food / water sources
- K47 proofing harbourage
- K48 how to prevent pest access
- K49 environmental control measures, their effectiveness and application
- K50 building regulations
- K51 control/change habitat

Site reinstatement

You need to know and understand:

- K52 post treatment procedures
- K53 methods of re-instating sites
- K54 how to account for returns of materials, tools and equipment
- K55 what to do with unused materials
- K56 how to advise on cleaning contaminated areas
- K57 where applicable, methods of product storage (pre-processing and finished)

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Waste disposal

You need to know and understand:

- K58 the risks of contamination
- K59 legal requirements for biological and chemical waste
- K60 safe methods of handling, cleaning and disposal of biological and chemical waste
- K61 safe methods of storing, labelling and transporting materials

Monitoring sites

You need to know and understand:

- K62 how to assess risks of pest re-infestation
- K63 how to prepare a monitoring plan
- K64 how to select and place monitoring devices
- K65 monitoring control methods
- K66 appropriate frequency of checks
- K67 record keeping and reporting procedures
- K68 possible reasons for failure of control methods
- K69 how to adapt control methods to increase effectiveness
- K70 monitoring methods

Legislation

You need to know and understand:

- K71 legislation and codes of practice in relation to use of firearms, traps, snares, chemicals, hazardous substances, the environment and conservation and the disposal of bodies

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Additional Information

- Scope/range
- 1 verify the situation by means of:
 - 1.1 discussion with surveyor, customer / customer's representative
 - 1.2 visual inspection
 - 1.3 monitor data

 - 2 attend the following sites:
 - 2.1 domestic
 - 2.2 commercial
 - 2.3 indoors
 - 2.4 outdoors
 - 2.5 rural
 - 2.6 urban

 - 3 take into account the following factors, for example:
 - 3.1 food/water sources
 - 3.2 harbourage
 - 3.3 hygiene
 - 3.4 adjacent sites
 - 3.5 building and drainage systems
 - 3.6 seasonal variations
 - 3.7 activity patterns of target species
 - 3.8 habitat
 - 3.9 endemic or supply source
 - 3.10 specific process knowledge, infestation or location

 - 4 work within constraints:
 - 4.1 presence of non-target species
 - 4.2 environmental impact
 - 4.3 site factors (eg. access, manufacturing processes)
 - 4.4 other health and safety factors, for example: resources, weather conditions, public access, topography, other estate activity
 - 4.5 legislation
 - 4.6 public opinion

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- 5 be aware of potential impacts on:
 - 5.1 health
 - 5.2 legal liability
 - 5.3 consequential loss and damage
 - 5.4 product contamination

- 6 communicate with customers:
 - (i) domestic
 - (ii) commercial

- 7 use suitable treatments:
 - 7.1 deterrents
 - 7.2 stupefying
 - 7.3 shooting
 - 7.4 fogging or ULV
 - 7.5 pesticides and biocides
 - 7.6 environmental
 - 7.7 spring traps, cage traps and snares
 - 7.8 gas
 - 7.9 live decoy

- 8 use suitable equipment:
 - 8.1 equipment for application
 - 8.2 equipment for proofing
 - 8.3 equipment for hygiene
 - 8.4 safety equipment and PPE
 - 8.5 working animals
 - 8.6 access equipment
 - 8.7 electronic fly killers
 - 8.8 equipment for environmental control
 - 8.9 weapons
 - 8.10 monitoring equipment
 - 8.11 weapons
 - 8.12 traps/nets
 - 8.13 access equipment
 - 8.14 working animals
 - 8.15 equipment for deterrent devices
 - 8.16 pheromone traps
 - 8.17 crawling insect traps
 - 8.18 traps for flying insects

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- 9 carrying out treatments effectively, for example:
 - 9.1 safely
 - 9.2 humanely
 - 9.3 thoroughly
 - 9.4 systematically
 - 9.5 taking account of the sensitivities of others
 - 9.6 in accordance with the site specification

- 10 use suitable proofing devices, for example:
 - 10.1 kick plates
 - 10.2 fillers / wire wool
 - 10.3 bristle strips
 - 10.4 screens and excluders

- 11 take hygiene measures

- 12 utilise deterrent devices, for example:
 - 12.1 gels
 - 12.2 spikes
 - 12.3 wires
 - 12.4 netting
 - 12.5 scaring devices (biological, acoustic, visual)

- 13 use environmental management measures:
 - 13.1 fencing
 - 13.2 habitat control
 - 13.3 exclusion techniques
 - 13.4 neuter and release
 - 13.5 deny harbourage
 - 13.6 deny access to food

- 14 employ physical controls:
 - 14.1 inspecting incoming goods
 - 14.2 quarantine procedures
 - 14.3 inspection procedures of machinery / structure
 - 14.4 physical and mechanical

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hygiene procedures

- 15 take suitable follow-up action, for example:
 - 15.1 hygiene measures
 - 15.2 environmental measures
 - 15.3 treatment measures
 - 15.4 proofing measures
 - 15.5 health and safety review
 - 15.6 monitoring
 - 15.7 biological and chemical waste disposal
 - 15.8 wildlife management measures
 - 15.9 changes to / adaptation of control methods
 - 15.10 changes to monitoring frequency
 - 15.11 improvements to housekeeping
 - 15.12 improve / introduce proofing

- 16 avoid potential risks:
 - 16.1 consequential loss and damage
 - 16.2 legal liability
 - 16.3 health
 - 16.4 product contamination

- 17 take into account other relevant sources, for example:
 - 17.1 adjacent sites
 - 17.2 similar sites
 - 17.3 similar types of infestation
 - 17.4 commodity type
 - 17.5 pheromone trap records
 - 17.6 customer complaints

- 18 produce a monitoring report (to cover), for example:
 - 18.1 site details (including history of infestation and current/past control methods)
 - 18.2 procedures used
 - 18.3 degree, extent, species and

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probable source of infestation
18.4 significance of infestation
18.5 recommendations for follow
up actions
18.6 aspects of findings which
may require further investigation

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