

CRRU UK Code of Best Practice

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This document formalises our commitment to responsible rodenticide stewardship

CRRU UK Code of Best Practice - *Our Responsibility to Nature*



PGM & Son Pest Control ("PGM") is dedicated to maintaining the highest standards in rodent control by fully complying with the Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use (CRRU) UK Code of Best Practice 2024, and proactively preparing for the anticipated 2026 amendments. This document formalises **our commitment to responsible rodenticide** stewardship, prioritising **human health**, **wildlife safety**, and **environmental protection** while delivering effective pest control solutions.

REGULATORY AND INDUSTRY CONTEXT

Rodenticide use in the UK is strictly regulated under several frameworks including the Control of Pesticides Regulations (COPR) and overseen by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE).

CRRU UK is the recognised stewardship body promoting best practice to prevent resistance development and minimise harmful ecological impacts.

As a market-leading pest control specialist, **our policies align with CRRU's endorsed seven-point Code of Practice**, reflecting government expectations and industry consensus for integrated pest management (IPM) and responsible rodenticide application.

CRRU SEVEN-POINT CODE OF PRACTICE OVERVIEW

Our operational standards adhere to the CRRU principles:

- 1. Integrated Pest Management (IPM)** as the first line of defence: Employing proofing, sanitation, traps, and habitat management.
- 2. Justified rodenticide** use only after non-chemical measures are insufficient.
- 3. Minimising risks** to non-target wildlife through careful bait placement and treatment control.
- 4. Prohibition of open-area** use of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARs) since 1 January 2025.
- 5. Compliance** with detailed bait station protocols and treatment duration to avoid unnecessary exposure.
- 6. Staff competence** ensured through mandatory CRRU certification and CPD achieving the 2026 target of 20 points annually, including 3 points from CRRU-approved courses.
- 7. Meticulous record keeping**, monitoring, and transparent reporting mechanisms enabling continuous improvement.



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Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Framework

We adopt a structured IPM approach comprising:

- Identification and verification of rodent activity through detailed site inspections and monitoring.
- Application of proofing measures to prevent rodent entry.
- Enforcement of sanitation best practice to reduce food and water sources.
- Environmental modification to limit habitat suitability.
- Use of mechanical controls such as traps and shooting before rodenticides.
- Only after these steps, targeted rodenticide application following risk assessment and CRRU guidelines.

All treatment plans include comprehensive environmental risk assessments to ensure minimal residual contamination and maximum ecological protection.

Rodenticide Use and Best Practice

Our rodenticide deployment complies with the CRRU-approved rodenticides list, emphasising:

- Prohibition of all open-area SGAR use in line with the 2025 ban to prevent wildlife exposure.
- Use of secured, tamper-resistant bait stations installed according to CRRU placement criteria.
- Regular bait monitoring to remove unused bait promptly and minimise exposure risks.
- Awareness and mitigation of rodenticide resistance through rotation and treatment limitations.
- Adherence to all product labels, safety data sheets, and legal handling requirements.

These measures ensure effective control whilst safeguarding non-target species and humans.

Environmental and Wildlife Protection

Consistent with CRRU stewardship, we implement:

- **Comprehensive safeguards** to prevent secondary poisoning of predatory and scavenging wildlife such as barn owls and foxes.
- Collaboration with conservation bodies to support wildlife monitoring and education programmes.
- Use of bait stations designed to reduce access by non-target animals.
- Environmental monitoring programmes and swift reporting of any **adverse incidents**.
- Adoption of voluntary stewardship and biodiversity-friendly practices in line with CRRU guidance.

Documentation, Reporting and Assurance

Robust documentation underpins our compliance framework:

- Detailed records of treatment sites, bait usage, inspections, and client communications are maintained.
- Farm Assurance documentation is provided proactively to agricultural clients.
- Internal audits and compliance reviews occur regularly to ensure adherence to the Code and identify improvement opportunities.
- Transparent reporting channels support accountability.



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Compliance with Future CRRU Amendments

We maintain agility regarding:

- Upcoming **2026 CRRU Code amendments**, including refined certification and CPD criteria.
- Integration of any new **best practice recommendations or regulatory changes** into operational processes.
- Ongoing communication with CRRU UK to remain aligned and ahead of industry standards.



The Key Elements of the CRRU Code of Best Practice

Our rodenticide deployment complies with the CRRU-approved rodenticides list, emphasising:



Risk Assessment

Conduct thorough assessments to identify the most appropriate and least harmful methods for rodent control.



Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

Prioritise non-chemical methods before considering the use of rodenticides, implementing IPM principles wherever possible.



Environmental Protection

Take all reasonable steps to prevent contamination of watercourses, non-target wildlife, and other unintended consequences of rodenticide use.



Training and Competence

Ensure that all individuals applying rodenticides are trained and competent in their use, following legal and professional guidelines.



Monitoring and Documentation

Keep accurate records of rodenticide use, including quantities, locations, and effectiveness, to ensure accountability and continual improvement.

As part of our NPTA membership, we adhere to the CRRU UK Code of Best Practice. This ensures that PGM maintains the highest professional standards, protect public health and the environment, and contribute to the sustainable management of rodent populations.

By aligning with this code, PGM demonstrates our commitment to responsible pest control, safeguarding both their reputation and the wider ecosystem.

