



City & Guilds NPTC Level 2 Award in the Safe Use of Pesticides for Vertebrate Pest Control for Rats and Mice (PA- R&M) (601/2256/0)

Version 1.1 (June 2024)

Qualification Handbook

Qualification at a glance

Subject area	Pesticides
City & Guilds number	0216
Age group approved	16+
Entry requirements	Candidate must meet minimum age requirements
Assessment	To gain this qualification, candidates must successfully achieve the following assessments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One to one practical assessment with oral questioning by an NPTC City & Guilds approved assessor
Grading	Met/Not Met
Approvals	Full Centre approval required
Support materials	Qualification Handbook (candidates). Assessment materials (approved assessment Centers only).
Registration and certification	Consult the Walled Garden/Online Catalogue for last Registration and Certification dates.

Title and level	City & Guilds qualification number	Regulatory reference number	GLH	TQT
City & Guilds NPTC Level 2 Award in the Safe Use of Pesticides for Vertebrate Pest Control for Rats and Mice (PA-R&M) (601/2256/0)	0216-25	601/2256/0	56	60

Version and date	Change detail	Section
1.0 February 2024	Initial version	All
1.1 June 2024	Topic 1.2 CRUU amended to CRRU LO7 Corrected	P17 P 23

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1 Introduction

This document tells you what you need to do to deliver the **City & Guilds NPTC Level 2 Award in the Safe Use of Pesticides for Vertebrate Pest Control for Rats and Mice (PA-R&M) (601/2256/0)**:

Area	Description
Who is the qualification for?	<p>This is an Independently Assessed qualification (PA-R&M)</p> <p>Type of Learner: If your job involves applying pesticides in a commercial role then you are legally required by the Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations (2012) to take this qualification.</p> <p>Qualification Overview: This qualification is designed specifically for anyone who applies pesticides to control Rats and Mice as part of their daily role. This is a new award.</p> <p>What you need to do: Candidates to undertake an oral and practical assessment.</p>
What does the qualification cover?	<p>This qualification covers the requirements in the Safe Use of Pesticides for Vertebrate Pest Control for Rats and Mice</p> <p>Please refer to the Qualification Handbook for more detail.</p>
What opportunities for progression are there?	<p>Recommended progression onto 0216-63 – City and Guilds Level 3 Award in Responsible Pesticide Management.</p> <p>Once a candidate has successfully completed this qualification, they are able to legally apply pesticides using the methods and equipment identified within this qualification.</p>

Area	Description
Who did we develop the qualification with?	Developed with the Health and Safety Executive, Chemical Regulation Division, Voluntary Initiative and practicing industry stakeholders, DEFRA, Environment Agency.

Is it part of an apprenticeship framework or initiative?	No
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Assessment Guidance for the Candidate

A list of registered Assessment Centres is available from City & Guilds NPTC.
(www.nptc.org.uk)

Assessment is a process by which it is confirmed that the candidate is competent in the unit(s) within the award to which the assessment relates. It is the process of collecting evidence about the candidates capabilities and judging whether that evidence is sufficient to attribute competence.

The Candidate must be registered through the City & Guilds approved Assessment Centre for this qualification prior to the assessment.

Structure

To achieve the City & Guilds NPTC Level 2 Award in the Safe Use of Pesticides for Vertebrate Pest Control for Rats and Mice (0216-25) learners must achieve one of the following two optional units:

City & Guilds unit number	Unit title	GLH
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Mandatory units:

Learners must achieve the following **two** units:

251	Principles; rodenticides rats and mice	28
252	Practices; rodenticides rats and mice	28

Total Qualification Time (TQT)

Total Qualification Time (TQT) is the number of notional hours which represents an estimate of the total amount of time that could reasonably be expected for a learner to demonstrate the achievement of the level of attainment necessary for the award of a qualification.

TQT comprises of the following two elements:

- 1) the number of hours that an awarding organisation has assigned to a qualification for guided learning
- 2) an estimate of the number of hours a learner will reasonably be likely to spend in preparation, study or any other form of participation in education or training, including assessment, which takes place as directed by – but, unlike guided learning, not under the immediate guidance or supervision of – a lecturer, supervisor, tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training.

Title and level	GLH	TQT
City & Guilds NPTC Level 2 Award in the Safe Use of Pesticides for Vertebrate Pest Control for Rats and Mice (PA-RandM) (601/2256/0)	56	60

2 Centre requirements

Approval

Full approval

To offer this qualification, new centres will need to gain both centre and qualification approval. Please refer to the document **Centre Approval process: Quality Standards** for further information. Please email **qasupport@cityandguilds.com** for further information on the approval process.

Centre staffing

Staff delivering these qualifications must be able to demonstrate that they meet the following requirements:

- be technically competent in the areas in which they are delivering
- be able to deliver across the breadth and depth of the content of the qualification being taught
- have recent relevant teaching and assessment experience in the specific area they will be teaching, or be working towards this
- demonstrate continuing CPD.

Centre staff should familiarise themselves with the structure, content and assessment requirements of the qualification before delivering a course programme.

Physical resources

Centres must be able to demonstrate that they have access to the equipment and technical resources required to deliver this qualification and its assessments.

Assessment Guidance for the Assessor

Staff assessing these qualifications must be approved Certificate of Competence City & Guilds NPTC Assessors and must be independent and cannot have been involved with the training of the Candidate. This qualification can only be assessed by an Assessor who is suitably qualified and meets the requirements of the awarding body.

Certificate of Competence City & Guilds NPTC Assessors must meet the following requirements:

- show competence and provide evidence of industry expertise in the qualification/s they wish to assess
- hold the qualification as a candidate and have been technically evaluated as an Assessor
- be up to date with their verification and relevant first aid
- demonstrate continuing technically relevant CPD Compliance with these requirements is a pre-requisite for Assessors remaining on the list of approved Assessors.

Verification is a process of monitoring assessment; it is an essential check to confirm that the assessment procedures are being carried out in the way City & Guilds has laid down. The overall aim of verification is to establish a system of quality assurance that is acceptable in terms of both credibility and cost effectiveness and approved Assessors will be subject to a regular visit by the Verifier at a time when assessments are being undertaken.

A selection of assessment reports completed by the Assessor will be evaluated by a City & Guilds approved Quality Consultant.

Safe Practice

Appropriate PPE must be worn at all times All equipment must be operated in such a way that the Candidate, Assessor, other persons, animals or other equipment are not endangered.

If these conditions are not observed this will result in the Candidate not meeting the required standard.

Validation of Equipment

Any item(s) equipment used for the assessment must comply with current legal requirements.

Additional information may be sought from the relevant manufacturer's instruction book, operators' manual, product label/database or any other Government/Government Agency publication.

Appeals and Equal opportunities

Centres must have their own auditable, appeals procedures. If a Candidate is not satisfied with the examination conditions or a Candidate feels the opportunity for examination is being denied, the Centre Manager should, in the first instance, address the problem. If, however the problem cannot be resolved, City & Guilds will arbitrate and a Principal Verifier may be approached to offer independent advice.

All appeals must be clearly documented by the Centre Manager and made available to the Principal Verifier or City & Guilds if advice is required.

Should occasions arise when Centres are not satisfied with any aspect of the verification process, they should contact the Quality Assurance Manager at City & Guilds NPTC, 5-6 Giltspur Street, London, EC1A 9DE. Telephone 024 76 857300

Access to the qualification is open to all, irrespective of gender, race, creed or special needs. Subject to HandS restrictions the Centre Manager should ensure that no learner is subjected to unfair discrimination on any grounds in relation to access to assessment and to the fairness of the assessment. QCA requires City & Guilds to monitor centres to check whether equal opportunities policies are being adhered to.

Quality assurance

Approved centres must have effective quality assurance systems to ensure optimum delivery and assessment of qualifications. Quality assurance includes initial centre approval, qualification approval and the centre's own internal procedures for monitoring quality. Centres are responsible for internal quality assurance and City & Guilds is responsible for external quality assurance. All external quality assurance processes reflect the minimum requirements for verified and moderated assessments, as detailed in the Centre Assessment Standards Scrutiny (CASS), section H2 of Ofqual's General Conditions. For more information on both CASS and City & Guilds Quality Assurance processes visit: the [What is CASS?](#) and [Quality Assurance Standards](#) documents on the City & Guilds website.

Learner entry requirements

Candidate must meet minimum age requirements.

Age restrictions

This qualification is approved for learners aged 16 or above.

Access arrangements and reasonable adjustments

Access arrangements are adjustments that allow candidates with disabilities, special educational needs, and temporary injuries to access the assessment and demonstrate their skills and knowledge without changing the demands of the assessment. These arrangements must be made before assessment takes place.

The Equality Act 2010 requires City & Guilds to make reasonable adjustments where a disabled person would be at a substantial disadvantage in undertaking an assessment.

It is the responsibility of the centre to ensure at the start of a programme of learning that candidates will be able to access the requirements of the qualification.

Please refer to the JCQ access arrangements and reasonable adjustments and Access arrangements - when and how applications need to be made to City & Guilds for more information. Both are available on the City & Guilds website:

<http://www.cityandguilds.com/delivering-our-qualifications/centre-development/centre-document-library/policies-and-procedures/access-arrangements-reasonable-adjustments>

3 Delivering the qualification

Initial assessment and induction

An initial assessment of each learner should be made before the start of their programme to identify:

- if the learner has any specific training needs
- support and guidance they may need when working towards their qualification.
- any units they have already completed or credit they have accumulated which is relevant to the qualification
- the appropriate type and level of qualification.

We recommend that centres provide an induction programme so the learner fully understands the requirements of the qualification, their responsibilities as a learner and the responsibilities of the centre. This information can be recorded on a learning contract.

Support materials

The following resources are available for this qualification:

Description	How to access
Candidate Handbook	www.nptc.org.uk
Assessment Pack (available only to assessors)	www.nptc.org.uk

4 Assessment

Assessment of the qualification

Candidates must:

- have a completed practical observation with oral questioning for each optional unit.

Assessment types			
Unit	Title	Assessment method	Where to obtain assessment materials
251	Principles; rodenticides rats and mice	Practical observations with oral questioning. Centres may use the materials provided by City & Guilds.	www.nptc.org.uk
252	Practices; rodenticides rats and mice	Practical observations with oral questioning. Centres may use the materials provided by City & Guilds.	www.nptc.org.uk

Assessment strategy

City & Guilds has written the practical observations with oral questioning for each optional unit to use with this qualification, live assessment materials can be downloaded by the assessor via the Assessment Pack from the NPTC website.

Time constraints

The following must be applied to the assessment of this qualification:

Candidates must finish their assessment within 24 months of date of initial registration.

Assessments should take no longer than 1.5 – 3 hours.

Qualification registration is valid for two years.

Summary of responsibilities in the assessment process		
Centre responsibilities	Candidate responsibilities	Assessor responsibilities
A suitable site is made available for the assessment to take place		Ensuring that the site provided is suitable for the assessment to take place
Machinery, equipment and materials are available to enable assessment of all the activities to take place	To be familiar with the machinery/equipment being used for the assessment	Ensuring that the machinery, equipment and materials provided satisfy the assessment requirements
	To bring appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to the assessment	Ensuring that candidate's PPE complies with the requirements of the assessment
	To bring relevant training materials (including calibration sheet if applicable)	
	To bring a product label appropriate for the assessment	To ensure that the product label is appropriate for the assessment (or provide a suitable alternative)

5 Units

Structure of the units

These units each have the following:

- City & Guilds reference number
- title
- level
- guided learning hours (GLH)
- unit aim
- assessment type
- learning outcomes, which are comprised of a number of assessment criteria

Guidance for delivery of the units

This qualification comprises a number of **units**. A unit describes what is expected of a competent person in particular aspects of their job.

Each **unit** is divided into **learning outcomes** which describe in further detail the skills and knowledge that a candidate should possess.

Each **learning outcome** has a set of **assessment criteria** (performance and knowledge and understanding) which specify the desired criteria that must be satisfied before an individual can be said to have performed to the agreed standard.

Unit 251

Principles of using rodenticides for vertebrate pest control (rats and mice)

Level:	2
GLH:	28
Assessment type:	Practical Observation with Oral Questioning
Aim:	The aim of this unit is for the candidate to safely use Pesticides for Vertebrate Pest Control for Rats and Mice.

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO1 Know the legislative requirements and Codes of Practice relating to the use of rodenticides to control rats and mice **(Criteria 1.1 – 1.2)**

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC1.1 Identify operator responsibilities under current legislation relating to the use of rodenticides to control rats and mice

AC1.2 State an operators responsibilities under current Codes of Practice when applying rodenticides to control rats and mice

Topic 1.1

Health and Safety at Work Act (1974):

- take reasonable care of him/herself
- take care of others
- co-operate with employer
- follow employer requirements
- the self employed have very similar duties

COSHH regulations:

- operators to follow the COSHH Assessment
- use the control measures as provided
- check that control measures are working
- report any defects promptly
- use the provided Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- do not smoke, eat or drink whilst using rodenticides
- maintain personal hygiene

Part III of the Food and Environmental Protection Act 1985:

- protect the health of human beings, creatures and plants
- only use humane methods of pest control
- safeguard the environment
- prevent the pollution of water
- make information available to the public

The Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012/The Biocidal Product Regulations 2012:

- all statutory conditions must be complied with
- all products must be approved for the intended use
- product labels and data sheets must be read and complied with
- maximum dose rates must be complied with
- all users must take all reasonable precautions to protect the health of human beings, creatures and all the environment
- all users have had adequate instruction, training and guidance
- comply with The Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012

Poisons Act 1972

- seller must identify purchaser
- purchaser must provide verification if not known to seller
- establish purpose for use
- complete the poisons book
- rules for wholesaling

To include:

- all bait must be covered
- regular checking of baits
- protection of general public
- protection of domestic pets and animals
- restrictions on placing of specific baits

Topic 1.2

Codes of Practice

May include:

- dealing with non target species poisoning
- reporting of incidents involving wildlife except fish (WIIS) Wildlife Incident Investigation Scheme
- reporting incidents involving fish to the Environment Agency
- abide by the static and mobile storage guidance laid out in HSE information sheet AIS16
- always transport rodenticides as stated on the label
- always follow the requirements relating to the container

Responsible Rodenticide Use (CRRU) Code of Best Practice

These include:

- changing emphasis rather than practices
- rodenticide application to be considered as a temporary solution after other procedures have been considered and implemented, e.g. making sites less conducive to rodent infestation
- Concept of 'risk hierarchy' should be at the forefront when deciding a rodent control strategy i.e the least severe methods must always be used

Permanent baiting

To Include:

- A procedure used in the UK by competent professionals
- Placement of rodenticide baits with the purpose of preventing the establishment of rodent infestation where one does not currently exist.
- Conducted only at sites where a high risk of re- invasion is likely and there is a risk to human and animal health.

Indoors

- Generally conducted against house mice using tamper proof stations
- Very little risk to non-target animals
- Small quantities only of bait are used
- Non-target animals are virtually absent from indoor baited areas
- May be appropriate for the control of rats where other alternatives cannot be applied

Outdoors

- Justification where there is a risk of reinvasion of rodent free sites which may result in a risk to human and animal health and welfare
- Usually conducted against rats
- Requires tamper-resistant bait boxes should be used
- Prevent access by non-target animals and human by-standers

Risk Mitigation measures

May include:

- Appropriate risk assessments are required
- Only trained and competent professionals to carry out permanent baiting programmes
- Permanent baiting should not be routine practice
- Consider permanent baiting if a building is under an ongoing threat of rodent infestation and human/animal health is at risk
- Other means of rodent prevention infestation should be considered first
- Reasons why alternatives are impractical or unlikely to be effective should be documented
- Sites should be inspected regularly as per label instructions

Resistance associated with permanent baiting

To include:

- Use of resisted anticoagulants will spread resistance and increase its severity
- Products which contain more potent anticoagulants must be used
- Use a non-anticoagulant rodenticide if available and appropriate

Alternatives to permanent baiting

May include:

- There is no direct replacement
- Ability to control adjacent properties which provide harbourages for rodents
- Proofing
- Trapping
- Predators

Animal species potentially at risk

- Water Voles
- Badgers
- Deer
- domestic animals
- birds, in particular Barn Owls and Kestrels
- farm animals
- other non-target mammals

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO2 Understand the relevance of product label information (**Criteria 2.1 – 2.2**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC2.1 State the relevance of product label information

AC2.2 State how the product must be used

Topic 2.1 – 2.2

Requirements from the rodenticide label

Highlighted/annotated label is acceptable

May include:

- the statutory status of the label
- the importance of the statutory box
- the significance of the CHIP box information
- the product being used
- approval number
- active ingredient
- approved Field of Use
- the target species on which the product can be used
- specific product precautions
- approved directions for use
- maximum dose rate
- correct method of baiting
- application timing and guidance
- where the product may be used
- numbers of bait boxes
- PPE to be used
- Risk and Safety statements
- First Aid information
- additional information
- always keep product in original container

Permanent baiting label phrase examples

- Permanent baiting is strictly limited to sites with a high potential for reinvasion where other methods have not worked
- Permanent baiting strategies shall be periodically reviewed within the context of IPM and the assessment of the risk for re-infestation

- Sites under a permanent baiting regime should be inspected regularly as per product label directions
- The period between visits for outdoor sites under continuous baiting will not exceed four weeks
- Follow all additional instructions provided by the CRRU Guidance on Permanent Baiting

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO3 Understand how to minimise the risk of human contamination and implement emergency procedures (**Criteria 3.1 – 3.4**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC3.1 State possible routes of contamination

AC3.2 List appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

AC3.3 Describe the symptoms of contamination

AC3.4 Explain appropriate procedures for dealing with contamination

Topic 3.1

May include:

- absorption
- inhalation
- ingestion

May include:

- no eating drinking or smoking
- maintain personal hygiene

Personal Protective Equipment to be suitable and serviceable

- store PPE and safely and away from contamination
- correct handling and disposal of rodenticide containers
- dispose of PPE safely
- only use as directed on the label
- treatment area must be marked during use

Topic 3.2

May include:

- coveralls
- suitable gloves
- appropriate footwear

Topic 3.3

May include:

- spontaneous haemorrhage from nose
- internal bleeding into the organs
- bleeding seen under the skin
- awareness that symptoms may be delayed

Topic 3.4

May include:

- stop work
- remove all contaminated clothing
- wash exposed skin and hair
- call doctor at once and show the label
- identify first aid to measures to include:
 - remove from the source of contamination
 - airway clear
 - treat as an emergency
 - stay with the casualty

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO4 Know how to store and transport rodenticide products safely (**Criteria 4.1 – 4.2**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC4.1 State how rodenticides should be stored

AC4.2 State how rodenticides should be transported

Topic 4.1

May include:

- appropriate warning signs
- visible contact number for storage ownership
- storage recording system
- fixed location storage conditions, stored off the floor above a bund
- store in original container, tightly closed in an approved store
- the storage container should be marked
- should be kept locked, key only accessible to those approved to use the product
- store location logged with the local Fire and Rescue Service
- ensure correct fire fighting equipment in store (dry powder extinguishers)
- correct PPE to be available

Topic 4.2

May include:

- appropriate warning signs
- documentation required during transport

- rodenticide products should not be routinely carried (only required when carrying out a planned treatment)
- products to be segregated from people during transport
- product records required in case of emergency
- ensure correct safety equipment is located in the vehicle

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO5 Know how to manage and dispose of surplus rodenticide and waste materials (**Criteria 5.1 – 5.3**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC5.1 Identify appropriate methods to reduce waste

AC5.2 State how to manage and dispose of surplus rodenticide

AC5.3 State how to manage and dispose of waste materials

Topic 5.1

May include:

- complete a site survey
- implement the Risk Assessment and control procedures
- check site prior to operation
- ensure rats and mice are active
- protect bait from the weather

Topic 5.2

May include:

- spillage around the bait box must be removed and disposed along with any spoilt bait removed from within the box
- the bait box must be completely emptied at the end of the treatment period
- disposal by a licensed waste disposal contractor

Topic 5.3

May include:

- tap any remaining dust out of container at treatment location
- always dispose of the container according to the label
- disposal via a licensed waste disposal contractor with consignment note issued by waste contractor
- comply with relevant waste disposal legislation

Learning outcome

The learner will:

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LO6 Know the record keeping requirements (**Criteria 6.1**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC6.1 State the records required to comply with legislation and industry best practice

Topic 6.1

May include:

- training records
- Environmental Assessment
- Risk Assessment
- COSHH Assessment
- control and emergency procedures
- stock records
- PPE stock numbers
- bait box maintenance checks
- application records

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO7 Understand how to minimise the risk of environmental contamination and implement emergency procedures (**Criteria 7.1 – 7.3**)

Assessment criteria

AC7.1 Describe the risks to the environment from rodenticide products

AC7.2 Describe how to carry out rodenticide application to minimise the risk to the environment

AC7.3 Explain appropriate procedures for dealing with environmental contamination

Topic 7.1

May include:

- contamination of non target species
- contamination of watercourses
- harmful to wildlife

Topic 7.2

May include:

- complete a detailed site survey
- read and follow the product label
- follow the Environmental Assessment

- by complying with CRRU CoBP in regard to permanent outdoor baiting, specifically only using this strategy where justified by risk assessment
- remove all spillages
- use the correct baiting procedure
- use of bait blocks
- use of bait bags

Topic 7.3

May include:

- secure the area
- contact the Emergency Services
- contact the Environment Agency
- contact the Wildlife Incident Investigation Scheme (WIIS)

Unit 251

Principles of using rodenticides for vertebrate pest control (rats and mice) Principles; rodenticides rats and mice

Supporting information

Evidence requirements

Assessment carried out by oral questioning and practical observation.

Unit guidance

Candidates must successfully achieve all assessment activities in their chosen unit(s).

Safe Practice

The Assessor and Candidate must wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when appropriate.

The Assessor must ensure that a Site Specific Risk Assessment is carried out.

All equipment must be operated in such a way that the Candidate, Assessor, other persons and the environment are not endangered. Failure to operate safely and comply with these requirements will result in the Candidate not meeting the required standard.

A breach of Health and Safety that puts any person at risk during the assessment process will result in the assessment being terminated and the Candidate not meeting the required standard. The Assessor may stop the assessment on the grounds of safety at any time at their discretion.

Candidates who undertake this assessment and have met the requirements are reminded of their legal obligation to receive/undertake appropriate additional training in the use of any equipment that differs from that used during the assessment, but which they are nevertheless qualified to use.

Suggested learning resources

Code of Practice for Using Plant Protection Products.

This is available from www.hse.gov.uk

Unit 252

Practices of using Rodenticides for Vertebrate Pest Control (Rats and Mice)

Level:	2
GLH:	28
Assessment type:	Practical Observation with Oral Questioning
Aim:	The aim of this unit is safely use Pesticides for Vertebrate Pest Control for Rats and Mice.

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO1 Be able to comply with the legislative and safety regulations relating to rodenticide use for the control of rats and mice **(Criteria 1.1 – 1.2)**

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC1.1 Demonstrate how to comply with the legal requirements relating to applying rodenticides to control rats and mice

AC1.2 Apply rodenticide safely using the correct baiting procedures following industry best practice

Topic 1.1

To include:

- COSHH/Risk Assessment completed
 - hazards identified
 - persons at risk
 - risks evaluated
 - hierarchy of control measures used
 - review requirements identified
- legal requirements followed
- rodenticide used correctly

- comply with The Plant Protection Products
- (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012 the operator must hold the appropriate certification for the materials and equipment they are using

Topic 1.2

To include:

- comply with Pesticide Codes of Practice
- comply with CRRU UK Code of Best Practice
- adopt industry best practice
- use the correct equipment
- apply rodenticide safely
- use the correct baiting procedures

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO2 Be able to assess the environmental factors relating to application (**Criteria 2.1 – 2.2**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC2.1 Identify risks to the environment by completing an Environmental Risk Assessment

AC2.2 Explain how to minimise risks to the environment

Topic 2.1

May include:

- water courses
- drains
- non-target animals
- sensitive crops/areas
- housing
- public access
- other risks particular to the site

Topic 2.2

May include:

- complete a detailed site survey
- read and follow the product label
- follow the Environmental Assessment
- use an appropriate rodenticide
- careful timing of application
- comply with Environmental Assessment
- warning signs
- monitoring

- use of appropriate bait boxes

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO3 Know the characteristics of rats and mice and their impact on the environment (**Criteria 3.1 – 3.5**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC3.1 State the biology of rats and mice

AC3.2 Describe the feeding behaviour of rats and mice

AC3.3 Describe the activity patterns of rats and mice

AC3.4 State where damage may be caused by rats and mice on a site

AC3.5 State the possible implications of the damage caused by rats and mice

Topic 3.1

May include:

- litter size (6 – 8)
- breeding season (all year-round if conditions are favourable)
- gestation (24 days rats) (21 days mice)
- neophobic differences between rats and mice

Topic 3.2

May include:

Rats:

- feed at two or three familiar points each night
- average intake 25 – 30 grams
- avoid new objects
- can be bait shy
- require free water

Mice:

- feed at many points each night
- average intake approx 3 grams
- naturally inquisitive
- not usually bait shy
- do not require free water, can extract moisture from food

Topic 3.3

May include:

Rats:

- prefer a stable environment

- very active in familiar areas
- can climb rough walls and pipes
- jump well up to 100cm
- good swimmer

Mice:

- investigate new objects
- naturally inquisitive
- good climber
- often live above the floor
- jump up to 30cm
- can squeeze through gaps as small as 5mm

Topic 3.4

May include damage to:

- crops and stores
- municipal and amenity land
- sports ground
- industrial land
- buildings and structures
- electrical installations

Topic 3.5

May include:

- reduction in crop values
- costs related to damage
- costs related to control
- transmission of disease
- public reaction
- environmental impact
- issues relating to safety
- agricultural crop assurance schemes

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO4 Know the methods of preventative management and control for rats and mice (**Criteria 4.1 – 4.3**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC4.1 State preventative management for rats and mice

AC4.2 State the natural control methods for rats and mice

AC4.3 State alternative methods of population control for rats and mice

Topic 4.1

May include:

- exclusion barriers
- closed containment or removal of potential food sources
- habitat/environment changes
- use of repellents
- use of sonic devices

Topic 4.2

May include:

- life expectancy
- common diseases
- natural predators
- species competition
- impact of weather conditions/seasons

Topic 4.3

May include:

- proofing buildings
- exclude food and water
- removal of harbourage
- trapping
- sticky (glue) boards
- alphachloralose
- gas - Aluminium Phosphide (rats only)
- first-generation anticoagulants

When second generation anticoagulants should be used

- second generation anticoagulants
- Second generation anticoagulants present the highest risk and should be used as a last resorts

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO5 Be able to complete a site survey prior to carrying out rat and mice control (**Criteria 5.1 – 5.3**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC5.1 Identify the natural habitats of rats and mice

AC5.2 Identify signs of rats and mice on a site

AC5.3 Identify signs of other non target species on the site requiring protection

Topic 5.1

May include:

- position and topography of home
- outside burrows
- roof spaces
- storage areas
- evidence of gnawing (holes etc)

Topic 5.2

May include:

- droppings
- smears
- holes
- damage to structures and food
- urination pillars (mice only)
- smell
- runs

Topic 5.3

May include:

- people
- children
- farm animals
- domestic animals
- birds
- other mammals

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO6 Be able to apply rodenticide products safely (**Criteria 6.1 – 6.3**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC6.1 Prepare the site for application

AC6.2 Demonstrate how to place the rodenticide product safely to control rats and mice

AC6.3 Carry out all activities protecting human health and the environment

Topic 6.1

To include:

- position of bait box
- size of area to be treated
- amount of activity
- correct timing of application
- warning signs on bait stations

Topic 6.2

To include:

- correctly place the rodenticide in a suitable bait container
- protect from non target species
- be aware of and comply with, the safety implications identified in the Risk Assessment
- comply with relevant Code of Practice
- comply with the label requirements

Topic 6.3

- Ensure all activities were carried out protecting the environment

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO7 Know how to carry out post operational procedures **(Criteria 7.1 – 7.4)**

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC 7.1 Complete an application record

AC 7.2 Explain how to dispose of rodent carcasses

AC 7.3 Describe the storage requirements for any surplus bait boxes

AC 7.4 Describe the follow up procedures after treatment

Topic 7.1

Completion of the treatment record must be:

- accurate
- legible (if handwritten)

Topic 7.2

To include:

- rodent bodies are located and removed

- disposal according to legislation
- buried in appropriate location
- use a licensed waste disposal contractor

Topic 7.3

May include:

- Boxes are emptied and left at the location
- Boxes are emptied and kept in secure storage

Topic 7.4

May include:

- reason for follow up visit(s)
- when to make any follow up visit(s) to a site/revisit frequency
- who should carry out the visit(s)
- signs to note regarding efficacy of treatment
- dispose of all carcasses correctly
- recording information
- removal of warning signs

Unit 252

Practices of using Rodenticides for Vertebrate Pest Control (Rats and Mice)rodenticides rats and mice

Supporting information

Evidence requirements

Assessment carried out by oral questioning and practical observation.

Unit guidance

Candidates must successfully achieve all assessment activities in their chosen unit(s).

Safe Practice

The Assessor and Candidate must wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when appropriate.

The Assessor must ensure that a Site Specific Risk Assessment is carried out.

All equipment must be operated in such a way that the Candidate, Assessor, other persons and the environment are not endangered. Failure to operate safely and comply with these requirements will result in the Candidate not meeting the required standard.

A breach of Health and Safety that puts any person at risk during the assessment process will result in the assessment being terminated and the Candidate not meeting the required standard. The Assessor may stop the assessment on the grounds of safety at any time at their discretion.

Candidates who undertake this assessment and have met the requirements are reminded of their legal obligation to receive/undertake appropriate additional training in the use of any equipment that differs from that used during the assessment, but which they are nevertheless qualified to use.

Suggested learning resources

Code of Practice for Using Plant Protection Products.

This is available from www.hse.gov.uk

Appendix 1 Sources of general information

The following documents contain essential information for centres delivering City & Guilds qualifications. They should be referred to in conjunction with this handbook. To download the documents and to find other useful documents, go to the [Centre document library](#) on www.cityandguilds.com or click on the links below:

Centre Handbook: Quality Assurance Standards

This document is for all approved centres and provides guidance to support their delivery of our qualifications. It includes information on:

- centre quality assurance criteria and monitoring activities
- administration and assessment systems
- centre-facing support teams at City & Guilds/ILM
- centre quality assurance roles and responsibilities.

The Centre Handbook should be used to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the centre contract.

Centre Handbook: Quality Assurance Standards

This document sets out the minimum common quality assurance requirements for our regulated and non-regulated qualifications that feature centre-assessed components. Specific guidance will also be included in relevant qualification handbooks and/or assessment documentation.

It incorporates our expectations for centre internal quality assurance and the external quality assurance methods we use to ensure that assessment standards are met and upheld. It also details the range of sanctions that may be put in place when centres do not comply with our requirements or actions that will be taken to align centre marking/assessment to required standards. Additionally, it provides detailed guidance on the secure and valid administration of centre assessments.

Access arrangements: When and how applications need to be made to City & Guilds provides full details of the arrangements that may be made to facilitate access to assessments and qualifications for candidates who are eligible for adjustments in assessment.

The **Centre document library** also contains useful information on such things as:

- conducting examinations
- registering learners
- appeals and malpractice.

Useful contacts

Please visit the Contact us section of the City & Guilds website, **Contact us**.

City & Guilds

For over 140 years, we have worked with people, organisations and economies to help them identify and develop the skills they need to thrive. We understand the life-changing link between skills development, social mobility, prosperity and success. Everything we do is focused on developing and delivering high-quality training, qualifications, assessments and credentials that lead to jobs and meet the changing needs of industry.

We partner with our customers to deliver work-based learning programmes that build competency to support better prospects for people, organisations and wider society. We create flexible learning pathways that support lifelong employability because we believe that people deserve the opportunity to (re)train and (re)learn again and again – gaining new skills at every stage of life, regardless of where they start.

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