

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 1.0 (February 2024)

Assessment Pack – Centre and Candidate Version

Version and date	Change detail	Section
1.0 February 2024	First version	ALL

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Introduction

This assessment relates to the unit in the Qualification handbook. The assessment can be achieved at pass only. If any task is not met the candidate is unsuccessful.

This assessment is for the following units and learning outcomes:

251 Principles of using rodenticides for vertebrate pest control (rats and mice) covering the following learning outcomes:

- 1. Know the legislative requirements and Codes of Practice relating to the use of rodenticides to control rats and mice
- 2. Understand the relevance of product label information
- 3. Understand how to minimise the risk of human contamination and implement emergency procedures
- 4. Know how to store and transport rodenticide products safely
- 5. Know how to manage and dispose of surplus rodenticide and waste materials
- 6. Know the record keeping requirements
- 7. Understand how to minimise the risk of environmental contamination and implement emergency procedures

252 Practices of using Rodenticides for Vertebrate Pest Control (Rats and Mice) covering the following learning outcomes:

- 1. Be able to comply with the legislative and safety regulations relating to rodenticide use for the control of rats and mice
- 2. Be able to assess the environmental factors relating to application
- 3. Know the characteristics of rats and mice and their impact on the environment
- 4. Know the methods of preventative management and control for rats and mice
- 5. Be able to complete a site survey prior to carrying out rat and mice control
- 6. Be able to apply rodenticide products safely
- 7. Know how to carry out post operational procedures

General guidance on the requirements for assessment can be found in the Assessor Guidance General guidance on the requirements for assessment can be found in the Assessor Guidance document available on the City & Guilds web site www.nptc.org.uk

The assessor must complete the Practical Table mark sheet for each candidate which should be kept by the assessor for a minimum period of twelve months.

Record of assessment (ROA)

A prepopulated record of assessment must be completed by the assessor following an assessment. The number of outcomes is listed above, these must be ticked into the relevant met or not met sections of the ROA.

ARAS Forms

An Assessment Result Advice Slip (ARAS form) must be completed by the assessor following an assessment. The ARAS is not a certificate but, based on the evidence of the candidate's performance, is a recommendation to City & Guilds that the candidate is either met or not met the assessment criteria. All feedback is to be recorded by the assessor on the feedback section of the ARAS form.

Assessment Time

The expected assessment time for this qualification is 1.5 - 3 hours.

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)

This is not an open book assessment; however additional technical information may be sought from the relevant manufacturer's operator manuals or any other appropriate training or safety publication.

Practical observation descriptor table

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

Activity number and description from check list		Assessment criteria
1.1	Identify operator responsibilities under current legislation relating to the use of rodenticides to control rats and mice	 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 date 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 and the standard of the standar
		regular checking of baits
		protection of general public protection of demostic pate and enimals.
		protection of domestic pets and animals restrictions on placing of specific baits
	State an operators responsibilities	restrictions on placing of specific baits Codes of Practice
	under current Codes of Practice	May include:
1.2	when applying rodenticides to	 dealing with non target species

- 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 (CRUU)
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

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- 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

		hinds in postinular Dama Oude and
		birds, in particular Barn Owls and Kestrels
		farm animals
		other non-target mammals
	State the relevance of product label information	Requirements from the rodenticide label Highlighted/annotated label is acceptable May include:
		the statutory status of the label
	State how the product must be used	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
2.1		 numbers of bait boxes
_		PPE to be used
2.2		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

	State possible routes of	May include:
	State possible routes of contamination	May include:
		absorption
		inhalation
		Ingestion
		Methods of avoiding contamination
		May include:
		no eating drinking or smoking
		maintain personal hygiene
3.1		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
	List appropriate Personal Protective	May include:
3.2	Equipment (PPE)	coveralls
3.2		suitable gloves
		appropriate footwear
	Describe the symptoms of	May include:
	contamination	spontaneous haemorrhage from nose
3.3		internal bleeding into the organs
		bleeding seen under the skin
		awareness that symptoms may be
		delayed
	Explain appropriate procedures for dealing with contamination	May include:
	dealing with contamination	stop work
		remove all contaminated clothing
		wash exposed skin and hair all destar at once and show the label.
3.4		call doctor at once and show the label identify first old to measures to include:
3.4		identify first aid to measures to include:
		 remove from the source of contamination
		airway clear
		<u> </u>
		treat as an emergencystay with the casualty
	State how rodenticides should be	May include:
	stored	appropriate warning signs
		visible contact number for storage
		ownership
4.1		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
	State how rodenticides should be	May include:
	transported	appropriate warning signs
		documentation required during transport
4.2		 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
	Identify appropriate methods to	May include:
	reduce waste	complete a site survey
5.1		 implement the Risk Assessment and control procedures
		check site prior to operation
		ensure rats and mice are active
		protect bait from the weather
	State how to manage and dispose of	May include:
	surplus rodenticide	 spillage around the bait box must be removed and disposed along with any spoilt bait removed from within the box
5.2		the bait box must be completely emptied at the end of the treatment period
		disposal by a licensed waste disposal contractor
	State how to manage and dispose of	May include:
	waste materials	tap any remaining dust out of container at treatment location
5.3		 always dispose of the container according to the label
3.3		disposal via a licensed waste disposal contractor with consignment note issued by waste contractor
		comply with relevant waste disposal legislation
	State the records required to comply	May include:
6.1	with legislation and industry best	training records
	practice	Environmental Assessment

		 Risk Assessment COSHH Assessment control and emergency procedures stock records PPE stock numbers bait box maintenance checks application records
7.1	Describe the risks to the environment from rodenticide products	 May include: contamination of non target species contamination of watercourses harmful to wildlife
7.2	Describe how to carry out rodenticide application to minimise the risk to the environment	 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
7.3	Explain appropriate procedures for dealing with environmental contamination	May include: secure the area contact the Emergency Services contact the Environment Agency contact the Wildlife Incident Investigation Scheme (WIIS)

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

 legal requirements relating to applying rodenticides to control rats and mice hazards identified persons at risk risks evaluated hierarchy of control meanused review requirements ide legal requirements followed rodenticide used correctly comply with The Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regaling
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		the operator must hold the appropriate
		certification for the materials and equipment they are using
	Apply rodenticide safely using the	To include:
	correct baiting procedures following	comply with Pesticide Codes of Practice
1.2	industry best practice	comply with CRRU UK Code of Best Practice
1.2		adopt industry best practice
		use the correct equipment
		apply rodenticide safely
		use the correct baiting procedures
	Identify risks to the environment by	May include:
	completing an Environmental Risk Assessment	water courses
	Acception	• drains
2.1		non-target animals
		sensitive crops/areas
		housing
		public access
		other risks particular to the site
	Explain how to minimise risks to the	May include:
	environment	complete a detailed site survey
		read and follow the product label
		follow the Environmental Assessment
2.2		use an appropriate rodenticide
		careful timing of application
		comply with Environmental Assessment
		warning signs
		monitoring
		use of appropriate bait boxes
	State the biology of rats and mice	May include:
		• litter size (6 − 8)
3.1		 breeding season (all year-round if conditions are favourable)
		gestation (24 days rats) (21 days mice)
		neophobic differences between rats and mice
	Describe the feeding behaviour of	May include:
	rats and mice	Rats:
		feed at two or three familiar points each night
		average intake 25 – 30 grams
3.2		avoid new objects
		can be bait shy
		require free water
		Mice:
		feed at many points each night
		average intake approx 3 grams

		naturally inquisitive
		naturally inquisitivenot usually bait shy
		 do not require free water, can extract moisture from food
	Describe the activity patterns of rats and mice	May include: Rats: • prefer a stable environment
		 very active in familiar areas can climb rough walls and pipes jump well up to 100cm
3.3		good swimmer Mice:
		investigate new objectsnaturally inquisitive
		good climberoften live above the floor
		jump up to 30cm
		 can squeeze through gaps as small as 5mm
	State where damage may be caused by rats and mice on a site	May include damage to: crops and stores
		 municipal and amenity land
3.4		sports ground
		industrial land
		 buildings and structures
		electrical installations
	State the possible implications of the damage caused by rats and mice	May include:
	damage caused by rate and mile	reduction in crop valuescosts related to damage
		costs related to damage costs related to control
3.5		transmission of disease
		public reaction
		environmental impact
		issues relating to safety
		agricultural crop assurance schemes
	State preventative management for	May include:
	rats and mice	exclusion barriers
4.1		 closed containment or removal of potential food sources
		habitat/environment changes
		use of repellents
		use of sonic devices
	State the natural control methods for	May include:
4.2	rats and mice	life expectancy
		common diseases
		natural predators

		species competition
		impact of weather conditions/seasons
	State alternative methods of	·
	population control for rats and mice	May include:
	population control for fate and finee	proofing buildings avaluate food and water
		exclude food and water
		removal of harbourage
		• trapping
		sticky (glue) boards
4.3		alphachloralose Aluminium Dhaonhide (rete anh.)
		gas - Aluminium Phosphide (rats only) Gas - Aluminium Phosphide (rats only)
		first-generation anticoagulants
		second generation anticoagulants
		When second generation anticoagulants should be used
		Second generation anticoagulants
		present the highest risk and should be
		used as a last resort
	Identify the natural habitats of rats	May include:
	and mice	position and topography of home
		outside burrows
5.1		roof spaces
		storage areas
		evidence of gnawing (holes etc)
5.2	Identify signs of rats and mice on a	May include:
	site	droppings
		• smears
		holes
		damage to structures and food
		urination pillars (mice only)
		• smell
		• runs
	Identify signs of other non target	May include:
5.3	species on the site requiring	people
	protection	children
		farm animals
		domestic animals
		• birds
		other mammals
6.1	Prepare the site for application	To include:
		position of bait box
		size of area to be treated
		amount of activity
		correct timing of application
		warning signs on bait stations
		g o.go o ban olationo

	Demonstrate how to place the	To include:
	rodenticide product safely to control rats and mice	correctly place the rodenticide in a suitable bait container
		protect from non target species
6.2		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
6.3	Carry out all activities protecting human health and the environment	Ensure all activities were carried out protecting the environment
7.1	Complete an application record	Completion of the treatment record must be:
7.1		accurate
		legible (if handwritten)
	Explain how to dispose of rodent	To include:
	carcasses	rodent bodies are located and removed
7.2		disposal according to legislation
		buried in appropriate location
		use a licensed waste disposal contractor
	Describe the storage requirements	May include:
7.3	for any surplus bait boxes	Boxes are emptied and left at the location
		Boxes are emptied and kept in secure storage
	Describe the follow up procedures	May include:
	after treatment	reason for follow up visit(s)
		when to make any follow up visit(s) to a site/revisit frequency
7.4		who should carry out the visit(s)
7.4		signs to note regarding efficacy of treatment
		dispose of all carcasses correctly
		recording information
		removal of warning signs

Appendix 1 Practical table

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

All criteria must be achieved.

Activity number and description	Achieved
1.1 Identify operator responsibilities under current legislation relating to the use of rodenticides to control rats and mice	
1.2 State an operators responsibilities under current Codes of Practice when applying rodenticides to control rats and mice	
2.1 State the relevance of product label information	
2.2 State how the product must be used	
3.1 State possible routes of contamination	
3.2 List appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	
3.3 Describe the symptoms of contamination	
3.4 Explain appropriate procedures for dealing with contamination	
4.1 State how rodenticides should be stored	
4.2 State how rodenticides should be transported	
5.1 Identify appropriate methods to reduce waste	
5.2 State how to manage and dispose of surplus rodenticide	
5.3 State how to manage and dispose of waste materials	
6.1 State the records required to comply with legislation and industry best practice	
7.1 Describe the risks to the environment from rodenticide products	
7.2 Describe how to carry out rodenticide application to minimise the risk to the environment	
7.3 Explain appropriate procedures for dealing with environmental contamination	

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

All criteria must be achieved.

Activity number and description	
1.1 Demonstrate how to comply with the legal requirements relating to applying rodenticides to control rats and mice	
1.2 Apply rodenticide safely using the correct baiting procedures following industry best	
2.1 Identify risks to the environment by completing an Environmental Risk Assessment	
2.2 Explain how to minimise risks to the environment	
3.1 State the biology of rats and mice	

3.2 Describe the feeding behaviour of rats and mice	
3.3 Describe the activity patterns of rats and mice	
3.4 State where damage may be caused by rats and mice on a site	
3.5 State the possible implications of the damage caused by rats and mice	
4.1 State preventative management for rats and mice	
4.2 State the natural control methods for rats and mice	
4.3 State alternative methods of population control for rats and mice	
5.1 Identify the natural habitats of rats and mice	
5.2 Identify signs of rats and mice on a site	
5.3 Identify signs of other non target species on the site requiring protection	
6.1 Prepare the site for application	
6.2 Demonstrate how to place the rodenticide product safely to control rats and mice	
6.3 Carry out all activities protecting human health and the environment	
7.1 Complete an application record	
7.2 Explain how to dispose of rodent carcasses	
7.3 Describe the storage requirements for any surplus bait boxes	
7.4 Describe the follow up procedures after treatment	

Appendix 2 Sources of general information

The following documents contain essential information for centres delivering City & Guilds qualifications. 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:

Quality Assurance Standards: Centre Handbook

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.

Quality Assurance Standards: Centre Assessment

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.

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

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Appeals and malpractice

Useful contacts

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