

CONTROL OF SUBSTANCES HAZARDOUS TO HEALTH (COSHH)

RISK ASSESSMENT – RUBY BLOCK

District Pest Control Ltd – Northern Ireland

1. Product Identification

Item	Details
Product Name	RUBY BLOCK
Product Type	Ready-to-use anticoagulant rodenticide bait block
Authorisation Number	NI-2013-0693
Approval Holder	LODI UK
Active Ingredient	Difenacoum 0.005% w/w
User Type	Professional users with demonstrated competence
Prepared By	District Pest Control Ltd
Applicable Region	Northern Ireland
Review Date	January 2028

2. Relevant Northern Ireland Legislation

- Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978
- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2000
- COSHH Regulations
- Control of Pesticides Regulations
- Biocidal Products Regulation
- Wildlife and environmental protection legislation
- Waste and Duty of Care legislation
- CRRU UK Code of Best Practice

3. Hazard Classification

Code	Hazard
H360D	May damage the unborn child
H373	May cause damage to organs through prolonged or repeated exposure
Secondary Poisoning	Hazardous to wildlife and non-target species
Anticoagulant Risk	Potential blood clotting inhibition and haemorrhage

4. Persons at Risk

- Self-employed technicians
- Customers
- Children
- Pets and non-target species
- Pregnant persons
- Food handlers
- Wildlife
- Members of the public

5. Routes of Exposure

Exposure Route	Potential Harm
Ingestion	Anticoagulant poisoning
Skin Contact	Repeated contact exposure
Eye Contact	Irritation and contamination
Dust Inhalation	Respiratory irritation during handling
Environmental Release	Wildlife and aquatic contamination

6. Mandatory PPE

PPE	Minimum Requirement
Gloves	Nitrile chemical resistant gloves EN374
Protective Clothing	Suitable workwear to prevent contamination
Respiratory Protection	Required where dust exposure risk exists
Eye Protection	Safety glasses/goggles where contamination risk exists
Hand Hygiene	Hand washing after treatment mandatory

7. CRRU Stewardship Requirements

- Only trained professional users with stewardship certification may use the product.
- Integrated Pest Management (IPM) principles must be followed.
- Permanent baiting only where justified by documented reinvasion risk.
- Dead rodents must be searched for and removed regularly.
- Baiting strategy must be reviewed periodically.
- Resistance management measures must be implemented.
- Secure tamper-resistant bait stations must be used where appropriate.

8. Risk Matrix

Score	Risk Level	Colour
1-5	Low	Green

6-12	Medium	Amber
15-25	High	Red

Severity / Probability	Very Unlikely	Unlikely	Possible	Likely	Very Likely
Negligible	1	2	3	4	5
Minor	2	4	6	8	10
Moderate	3	6	9	12	15
Major	4	8	12	16	20
Extreme	5	10	15	20	25

9. COSHH Task-Based Risk Assessment

Task	Hazard	Persons at Risk	Initial Risk	Control Measures	Residual Risk
Transport	Accidental access/spillage	Public/Technician	12 Medium	Secure storage container in vehicle	4 Low
Handling bait	Skin exposure	Technician	9 Medium	EN374 gloves and hygiene controls	3 Low
Bait placement	Non-target poisoning	Children/Pets/Wildlife	20 High	Tamper-resistant bait stations and secure placement	5 Low
Permanent baiting	Environmental contamination	Environment	20 High	CRRU controls and periodic review	5 Low
Dead rodent recovery	Secondary poisoning risk	Wildlife	15 High	Frequent inspections and disposal procedures	4 Low
Burrow baiting	Bait exposure/spillage	Non-target species	15 High	Block entrances and secure bait	5 Low
Repeated exposure	Anticoagulant health effects	Technician	12 Medium	PPE and exposure minimisation	4 Low

10. Environmental Controls

- Prevent bait entering drains or watercourses.
- Do not contaminate soil or water.
- Dispose of waste through approved routes.
- Recover uneaten bait at end of treatment.
- Use secure baiting methods in sewer systems.
- Protect wildlife and non-target species.

- Pictures on the app of bait location and maps onsite.

11. Self-Employed Technician Responsibilities

- Maintain stewardship certification.
- Follow product label and COSHH assessment.
- Record treatments accurately.
- Inspect bait stations appropriately.
- Maintain PPE and vehicle standards.
- Report incidents and near misses.
- Comply with CRRU UK Code of Best Practice.

12. First Aid

Exposure	Action
Ingestion	Seek immediate medical attention – Antidote Vitamin K1
Eye Contact	Flush eyes for at least 10–15 minutes
Skin Contact	Wash thoroughly with soap and water
Inhalation	Move to fresh air and seek medical advice if symptoms persist

13. Monitoring and Audit

- Treatment record reviews
- Vehicle inspections
- PPE checks
- Photographic audits
- Stewardship compliance checks
- Incident reporting
- Management / advisor spot checks

14. Residual Risk Summary

Hazard	Initial Risk	Residual Risk
Non-target poisoning	High	Low

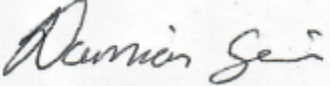
Environmental contamination	High	Low
Repeated technician exposure	Medium	Low
Secondary poisoning	High	Low
Public exposure	High	Low

15. Technician Declaration

Technicians to confirm that I have read and understood this COSHH Risk Assessment, the product label, CRRU stewardship requirements, and District Pest Control Ltd safe systems of work.

16. Management Control Statement

This COSHH Risk Assessment has been prepared by District Pest Control Ltd to support suitable and sufficient compliance with HSENI expectations, COSHH duties, CRRU stewardship obligations and Northern Ireland health and safety legislation.

Signed: 

15th February 2026

Review date 15th February 2027