



Management of Pests and Vermin

Introduction

The company has established, documented and implemented a pest control system for the site, which is maintained as part of the operational programmes in order to meet the requirements of the Food Safety Quality Management System and ensure the safe production of products.

Procedure

The company operates a proactive system for the prevention of contamination of products by pests and ensures there are effective controls and processes in place to minimise pest activity. This includes ensuring an integrated pest management system is effectively implemented. This procedure is used in conjunction with written Prerequisites and HACCP plans to ensure adequate pest control. The Hazards Associated with pests are the contamination of food by bacteria from pests and their droppings and also unwanted contamination of food with pests' bodies, eggs, hairs or droppings. At the factory design stage measures are taken to reduce the risk of contamination by aiming to restrict the access of pests on site.

Raw materials, packaging and finished products are stored so as to minimise the risk of infestation. Where stored product pests are considered a risk, appropriate measures are included in the control programme. All incoming goods are inspected for pest infestation. Process equipment handling raw materials vulnerable to infestation is identified and scheduled inspection undertaken. All buildings are required to be adequately proofed as described in QM Infrastructure and Work Environment Prerequisites. Waste is managed as per procedures QM Waste Disposal and QM Waste Management to prevent the accumulation of debris and waste on site to prevent the attraction of pests. In order to prevent risk of contamination no animals are allowed on site.

The company employs a Pest Control Association registered pest control contractor to implement a pest control programme and maintain the site free from pest contamination.

The contract agreement defines:

- company and contractor key contact personnel

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Pest Control Reporting

Records of all Monitoring devices are maintained, including services performed, to ensure that devices are properly placed and inspected to allow trend analysis of activity.

Pest Control Contractor reports include:

- Signs of pest activity
- Proofing requirements
- Actions required by site
- Type of Pest
- Pesticide or material applied
- Pesticide registration number
- Rate of application or percent of concentration
- Specific location of application
- Method of application
- Amount of pesticide used at the application site
- Next action/follow up date
- Date and time
- Signature of pest controller

Temporary placement of any pest monitoring devices for short-term monitoring is documented in pest control action reports.

The Field Biologist conducts a quarterly assessment of the facility including catch trap analysis. The assessment evaluates all areas inside and outside the facility. Assessment results and recommendations are documented and reviewed with the Technical Manager with a view to improving and updating the pest control procedures. During the assessment the Field Biologist measures the effectiveness of the program to verify the elimination of applicable pests.

All personnel are trained to avoid contact with pest control devices and materials and that only authorised personnel are permitted to handle pesticides at induction. Personnel are required to inform management immediately if such contact is made and then take the appropriate hand washing and change of protective work wear measures. All personnel are trained to identify potential issues caused by pests at induction. A pest

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