

LEVEL 2 AWARD IN THE SAFE USE OF RODENTICIDES

Specimen Paper

PAPER NUMBER: 0000

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. Attempt to answer every question.
2. Enter your answers on the accompanying answer sheet. Each question has only **ONE** correct answer
3. You have **40 MINUTES** to complete the examination. When you have finished give your question paper and answer sheet to the person in charge.
4. The Pass mark for this examination is 17/25.

- 1 Commensal rodents are rodents that:**
- A. live in large colonies.
 - B. can communicate using ultrasound.
 - C. are living with or in close association to humans.
 - D. spread disease to humans.
- 2 Why is it necessary for local authorities to control commensal rodents?**
- A. to stop sewers being no go areas for workers
 - B. it is a requirement under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949
 - C. to protect native Red Squirrels
 - D. to protect Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- 3 Given adequate food and shelter, a Brown Rat will become sexually mature at which one of the following age ranges?**
- A. 3 - 4 weeks
 - B. 8 - 12 weeks
 - C. 16 - 20 weeks
 - D. 24 - 28 weeks
- 4 Compared to the field mouse, the house mouse has:**
- A. large ears and slightly protruding eyes.
 - B. grey-brown fur with a slightly lighter underside.
 - C. tail length longer than head and body together.
 - D. reddish-brown fur with distinctive lighter underside
- 5 Which of the following statements is true? House mice:**
- A. avoid food containing sugars.
 - B. avoid climbing whenever possible.
 - C. must have access to water to survive.
 - D. show strong territorial behaviour.
- 6 Commensal rodents are:**
- A. carnivorous.
 - B. herbivorous.
 - C. omnivorous.
 - D. ruminant.
- 7 You are inspecting a loft space and you find some droppings that are about 4mm long and pointed at both ends. You squeeze them and they crumble. These are:**
- A. bat droppings
 - B. house mouse droppings
 - C. grey squirrel droppings
 - D. edible dormouse droppings
- 8 When undertaking a site survey to determine the size and nature of a rodent infestation, what might you use to assist you in identifying areas of current rodent activity?**
- A. rodenticidal bait points
 - B. break-back traps or glue boards
 - C. fluorescent tracking dust
 - D. rodenticidal foam or gel

- 9 All of the following can be used to assess the likely size of a mouse colony apart from:**
- A. the strength of “rodent smell”
 - B. feeding levels from multiple baiting points
 - C. persistent scratching noises in different void spaces
 - D. quantity of visible droppings
- 10 The size of a rodent infestation on a site can be increased by:**
- A. neighbouring property has fly tipping problem
 - B. being close to a supermarket
 - C. absence of source of water
 - D. frequency of visits to site
- 11 In domestic gardens poorly constructed compost areas can encourage rats. Which of the following is an appropriate measure to minimise the risk of infestation?**
- A. placing compost bin on hard ground / stone flags
 - B. moving the lid from plastic bins
 - C. using a plastic compost bin
 - D. using an open compost heap
- 12 A householder has seen a rat go under a garden shed. The pest technician can see signs of a run, and rat droppings at the side of the shed, and assesses that several rats are present. Which of the following would be the most suitable action to take?**
- A. push sachets of rodenticide under the centre of the shed
 - B. push a glue board (with a string for retrieval) under the centre of the shed
 - C. place rodenticide in a tamper proof box under or near the shed
 - D. set a Fenn trap on the run, and cover with a tamper proof box
- 13 A lay-by on a main road in a rural location has a rat infestation. Which one of the following actions would provide the best long term control of the problem?**
- A. burrow bait with loose grain rodenticide
 - B. remove all litter and waste food from the lay-by on a weekly rota
 - C. bait with wax blocks in tamper proof bait stations
 - D. use a JCB to scrape and flatten the earth edges of the lay-by
- 14 Which one of the following statements is true?**
- A. rodenticide resistance is the most common reason for treatment failure against rats in England.
 - B. house mice are never resistant to the anticoagulant rodenticides.
 - C. rodenticide resistance is spread by bad treatments.
 - D. rodents are either born resistant to anticoagulants or not resistant.
- 15 Mice access to a building is best addressed by which of the following actions?**
- A. placing rodenticide baits both indoors and outdoors
 - B. proofing of all mouse access points
 - C. placing rodenticide outdoors
 - D. removing water sources
- 16 A food manufacturing site has prohibited the use of toxic rodenticides. You are allowed to:**
- A. live catch any rodent and drop the cage into a waterbutt
 - B. use a verminator to destroy harbourage areas
 - C. drop pine cones soaked in creosote into burrows
 - D. place breakback traps behind wooden panels

- 17 **A pest technician has laid rodenticide in a farm feed store but finds that rats are not attracted to the bait. Which one of the following options should be tried next?**
- A. mix the bait with some of the feed materials in the store, and use this to replace the original bait
 - B. mix the bait with an attractant such as sugar, and use this to replace the original bait
 - C. remove the original bait and replace with one using a different bait base
 - D. keep the original bait, but double the number of baiting points in the store
- 18 **An infestation of brown rats has been reported and confirmed on a riverbank where water voles are also present – how would you proceed in such circumstances?**
- A. treat using poisoned grain as usual as water voles only eat grass and sedges.
 - B. treat, but using only rat bait boxes as water voles will not enter rat bait boxes.
 - C. treat but only use covered break back traps at the water's edge.
 - D. treat but only using wax blocks bait in secured bait boxes at least 5m from the water's edge
- 19 **In most cases any anticoagulant rodenticide treatment should achieve control within:**
- A. 35 days
 - B. 21 days
 - C. 14 days
 - D. 50 days
- 20 **A householder has reported an infestation of brown rats in their kitchen. Upon inspection there is a large hole in an air vent at ground level where you suspect rats are gaining entry. At which stage of the treatment would you recommend repairing the air vent and why?**
- A. at the beginning of the treatment so that rats could not gain access and hopefully go elsewhere.
 - B. in the middle of the treatment to see if any more rats were still present indoors before you finished.
 - C. at the end of the treatment as all rodents are dead and it prevents access for new infestations.
 - D. not at all, as it is much safer to bait indoors if the problem ever occurs again
- 21 **You have just completed a large-scale brown rat control treatment around a fast food takeaway business. The company now wishes to take out an annual contract and the terms have been agreed. What is the recommended course of action in relation to long-term rodent control?**
- A. leave all bait down ready for another infestation of rats.
 - B. replace all baits with non-toxic indicators and monitor on a regular basis.
 - C. remove all bait and sundries from site and inspect for runs droppings etc. on a regular basis.
 - D. bait on a permanent basis but only using pulse baits.
- 22 **Which one of the following statements is true? Weil's Disease (Leptospirosis) may be contracted by:**
- A. being bitten by an infected rat
 - B. coming into contact with the urine of an infected rat
 - C. being bitten by fleas living on an infected rat
 - D. being bitten by ticks while working in woodland areas
- 23 **A "Risk Assessment" is often required before carrying out work. Which one of the following statements is true?**
- A. the Risk Assessment identifies all hazards associated with the work
 - B. the Risk Assessment can be found on the rodenticide label
 - C. the Risk Assessment is included in the MSDS (Manufacturer's Safety Data Sheet)
 - D. the Risk Assessment can be downloaded from the government Health & Safety website

- 24 You have placed a rodenticide bait to treat a colony of rats. What is the most important reason for documenting a timely revisit appointment?**
- A. the bait may degrade in wet weather
 - B. there may not be enough bait placed
 - C. there may be tolerance by rodents to the bait
 - D. the product label states “make frequent inspections” of bait placed
- 25 Good record keeping of rodent control work is essential. Who on a treatment site should be informed of your actions?**
- A. the owners and occupiers of the site
 - B. any person who has regular access to the site
 - C. the person who is paying the bill
 - D. your employer

END OF PAPER