

KILLGERM



RSPH LEVEL 2 AWARD IN PEST MANAGEMENT

WORKBOOK 2021

RSPH / BPCA LEVEL 2 AWARD IN PEST MANAGEMENT

Introduction

Welcome to your Level 2 Workbook and thank you for choosing Killgerm as your training provider.

Contained in this workbook are key points designed to assist you with your learning. At intervals, there are questions designed to check your understanding and practice your exam technique.

We urge you to use this workbook in conjunction with your training manual in order to maximise your chances when you come to take the exam.

Note that this workbook begins with “unit 3” as we believe that legislation / health and safety ought to be the first topic covered and understood.

Background and Structure of Qualification

The RSPH/BPCA Level 2 Qualification is now regarded as an essential qualification for our industry. It is an externally accredited qualification provided by the Royal Society of Public Health and regulated by OFQUAL. In addition, this qualification meets the stewardship requirements for the purchase of professional-use rodenticides.

RSPH Level 2 Award in Pest Management is comprised of 3 units:

Unit 1	Vertebrate Pest Management
Unit 2	Invertebrate Pest Management
Unit 3	Legislation and Health and safety

Exam

The exam comprises a total of 45 questions (ie. 15 questions for each unit). Each *question* is worth 5 marks.

You need to obtain 50% in each unit in order to achieve a pass.

If you achieve 80% in each unit then you will be awarded a “Distinction”.

Unit 3 – Legislation and Health and Safety

This unit is designed to ensure operators have an understanding of all current legislation which impact upon the Pest Controllers role. In addition, this unit contains information essential for safe working and is designed to enable you to undertake tasks without undue risks to yourself, other people, non-target animals or the environment.

You will need to be familiar with all the major pieces of *legislation* affecting pest control work and have a good grasp of safe working behaviours including *risk assessments*, *safe use of pesticides* and *recording of actions*. You will need to be familiar with *product labels* and *safety data sheets* and have an understanding of *PPE* and *Pesticide storage requirements*.

Please refer to “Principles” sections 3, 6, 7 and 8 of your Killgerm Manual

Major Legislation	Notes
Health and Safety at Work Act 1974	Employer, Employee and Self Employed.
Control of substances hazardous to health Regulations (COSHH)	Protection of operator and other people from the effects of chemicals used.
Food and Environment Protection Act	General principles set out in FEPA.
Control of Pesticides Regulations	Governs the use of pesticides and repellents via the approval. UK legislation.
Biocidal Products Regulations	Governs the use of pesticides and repellents via the approval. European legislation.
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	With reference to rodent control. Non-agricultural land and Non-food premises.
Public Health Acts 1936 and 1961	With reference to drainage, destruction and removal of “vermin” and specified urban pest birds
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981	With reference to protected species of mammals and birds and permitted methods of pest control.
Animal Welfare Act 2006	Animals under your control must not suffer as a result of our actions.
Pest Act 1954	Applies to rabbits and lists approved spring traps through Spring Traps Approval Order
Food Safety Act 1990	Food must <u>not</u> be unfit for human consumption. “Due diligence” defence.
Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013	Outlines requirements for design, layout, construction and maintenance of food premises with reference to pest control.

Health and Safety at Work, etc. Act 1974**Responsible**

- Employers
- Self-Employed
- Employees
- In some situations.....'any person'.

COSHH**Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (as amended)****Hazard**

- Has the ability or potential to cause harm.

Risk

- The likelihood that harm will occur.

Food and Environment Protection Act 1985 (FEPA)

Part III of FEPA aims to:

- protect the health of human beings, creatures and plants;
- protect the environment; and
- establish safe, effective and humane methods of controlling pests.
- make information about pesticides available to the public.

The Control of Pesticide Regulations 1986 (COPR)

Biocidal Products (Amendment) Regulations 2012 (BPR)

Plant Protection Products Regulations 2005 (PPPR)

Pests Act 1954

- Under the Pests Act 1954, only certain types of spring traps are approved for killing and taking animals. These are listed in Spring Traps Approval (England) Order 2012, which is issued by Natural England and details are available on their website. Such traps must be used in accordance with their conditions of approval.
- Spread of Myxomatosis (Under Section 12) It is illegal to use an infected rabbit to spread Myxomatosis

The Public Health Act 1936

Under the Public Health Act 1936, local authorities are given the power to serve notice requiring the removal of wallpaper and other wall coverings and taking the necessary action to kill or remove vermin.

The Public Health Act 1961

The Public Health Act 1961 gives local authorities the power to deal with nuisance or damage caused by feral pigeons in built-up areas.

Makes illegal the sale of infested articles.

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 places a local authority under a duty to secure, as far as is practicable, that a district is kept free from rats and mice

In addition, occupiers of non-agricultural land must notify the local authority if rats or mice are living on or resorting to the land in substantial numbers.

The authority may serve notice on the owner or occupier requiring such action to be taken within a specified reasonable period.

If an owner or occupier fails to take steps to get rid of an infestation within the time specified, the authority may undertake the work and recover the expense.

Usually non-food premises.

Food Safety Act 1990

The Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013

The Food Hygiene (Scotland) Regulations 2006

The Food Hygiene (Wales) Regulations 2006

The Food Hygiene (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2006

Where the food business operator fails to comply with hygiene regulations a hygiene improvement notice can be served. Failure to comply with a hygiene improvement notice is an offence.

An emergency prohibition notice can be served where there is an imminent risk to health. This may be caused by infestation of vermin, serious enough to result in actual contamination of food or significant risk of contamination

Regulation 11 - This regulation provides the defence of '**due diligence**' in any proceedings for an offence if the person charged is able to prove that all reasonable precautions were taken and due diligence exercised to avoid the offence being committed.

The Environmental Protection Act 1990

This Act concerns the protection of the environment for example.

- audible bird scarers near residential areas
- disposal of pesticides and other waste
- environment in the home, where prosecutions can occur where the presence of pests can be classified as being prejudicial to health.

Also may be used in cases where birds or their droppings are causing problems as an alternative to **The Public Health Act 1961**

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

Protects all birds

Named birds can be controlled under **General Licences**

Class Licences also operate in some situations

Protects all **bats**

Lists other species protected

Illegal methods of taking and killing wild animals

- Self locking snares
- Bows
- Crossbows
- Explosives other than ammunition for firearms.

To protect animals in the **wild**

Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996

Under the Act, any person who mutilates, kicks, beats, nails or otherwise impales, stabs, burns, stones, crushes, drowns, drags or asphyxiates any wild mammal **with intent to inflict unnecessary suffering** is guilty of an offence.

To protect animals in **captivity**

Animal Welfare Act 2006

Concerns animals which are “under control” and “not in the wild state” e.g. in traps, snares or glue boards

Illegal to cause **unnecessary suffering**

Unit 3 – Legislation and Health and Safety**Sample questions**

Q1 With reference to the above pieces of legislation please indicate for each question below, which legislation might have been contravened.

Your actions result in the destruction of a number of House sparrows

You use an unauthorised rodenticide

You are the owner of a non-food premises with a considerable rodent problem. Your local council has instructed you to undertake rodent control work.

Whilst using pest control chemicals, you allow your customers' staff to come into contact with the chemicals you are using.

After using pest control chemicals, your lack of planning results in widespread contamination of a drain and a water-course.

You are the owner of a Food Factory and your products are found to contain insect fragments and rodent hairs.

You consistently fail to record the type and quantity of pesticides used when undertaking your pest control work.

Q2 List 5 pieces of information that can be found on a product label

Q3 List 5 pieces of information which ought to be included on a treatment report.

Unit 1 – Vertebrates

This unit is concerned with vertebrate pest species such as Rats, mice, rabbits, moles, Grey Squirrels and birds. It will also include certain non-target animals. Mostly however, this unit will focus upon rats and mice.

The unit is designed to provide an understanding of *biology, behaviour and management techniques* of the following: -

- Brown rat
- House mouse
- Black rat
- Grey squirrel
- Mole
- Rabbit
- Feral cat
- Fox
- Lesser black backed Gull
- Herring Gull
- Feral Pigeon

The unit will also cover certain non-target animals such as:-

- Wood mice (often referred to as “Field Mice”)
- Bank vole
- Field vole
- Bats
- Badgers
- Water vole
- Red squirrel
- Otter

The “*Pest-status*” of the above animals will need to be understood with reference to the variety of problems created by their presence.

You will need to be familiar with available management techniques including the use of chemicals (*rodenticides*) and the use of *traps*.

The limitations of and potential problems created by the management techniques will also need to be understood as will an understanding of how legislation affects control.

In addition, you will need to be familiar with the requirements for purchase and use of “professional-use” rodenticides, as outlined by the industry’s “*Stewardship Scheme*”.

Please refer to “Principles” section 5 and “Biology” sections 11-16 of your Killgerm Technical Manual and also refer to the CRRU “Code of Best Practice”.

Unit 1 – Vertebrates**Sample questions**

Q1 What defines a “rodent”?

Q2 What is a “commensal” rodent?

Q3 When using rodenticides, Wood Mice are classed as a non-target animal
TRUE / FALSE

Q4 Certain rodenticides are referred to as “anticoagulants”. How do anticoagulants work?

Q5 Define a “single feed” anticoagulant

Define a “multi feed” anticoagulant

Q6 The Anticoagulant Stewardship Scheme is designed primarily to protect:-
A) Non-target Animals and the wider environment
B) Pest Control Operators
C) Other people

Q7 List five things that might be found which might indicate the presence of rodents.

Q8 Define “secondary poisoning” with reference to anticoagulant rodenticides

Q9 What is the mode of action of Alphachloralose?

Q10 What is the main constituent in the diet of Moles?

Unit 2 – Invertebrates

This unit covers the *biology, behaviour* and need for *management* of a range of invertebrate pests (the vast majority of which are insects). The major pest species on the syllabus includes Social wasps, Black Garden ant, Pharaoh Ant, Oriental (Common) cockroach, German cockroach, Bed bug, Cat flea, Blowflies (Blue and green bottles), Cluster flies, House fly, Lesser house fly, Booklice, Common clothes moth and Mites (as a group).

A number of other insects or groups of insects will be covered and whilst these are of lesser importance syllabus-wise, there may well be a question regarding them on the exam.

You will be expected to have a grasp of: -

- *basic insect biology*, particularly *metamorphosis*
- the effect on insects of *environmental factors* such as temperature
- *Chemical control* of insects
- *Non-chemical control* of insects
- *insect monitoring techniques*

This unit will also provide information regarding *insecticides (active ingredients, formulations and products)*. *Insecticide application techniques* will also be covered.

Please refer to the “Principles” section 3 and “Biology” sections 1 – 10 of your Killgerm Technical Manual

Sample questions

Q1 Describe the term “incomplete metamorphosis” and give 2 examples of insects which exhibit it (insects should belong to different insect orders)

Q2 Describe the term “complete metamorphosis” and give 3 examples of insects which exhibit it (insects should belong to different insect orders)

Q3 What is a “residual” insecticide?

Q4 List 5 insecticide formulations

Q5 List 2 insecticide groups and give an example of an active ingredient for each group

Insecticide Group

Active ingredient

Q6 What does the term “Diptera” mean and what group of insects does the term refer to

Q7 What is a “pheromone”

Q8 Give 3 examples of physical methods which may be used to control insects

Q9 What life stage of the common clothes moth will cause damage to carpets and other articles

Q10 Explain how “Electronic Fly Killers” work

Key References

1. Killgerm Technical Manual
2. Level 2 Pest Management - Syllabus
- Specimen paper

<https://www.rsph.org.uk/qualification/level-2-certificate-in-pest-management.html>

3. Campaign for responsible rodenticide use (CRRU)

<http://www.thinkwildlife.org/about-crru/>

4. www.killgerm.com