Comments provided by: Animal Health Distributors Association, UK

General information
Our members represent 90% of the UK animal medicines distributors that prescribe non vet prescription medicines principally to livestock farmers, cat, dog and horse owners

Alternative Identity and Properties
No substitution is available based on the products efficacy, ease of administration and availability to professional users under our new code of practise that requires a certificate of competence and training prior to purchase by the end user

Technical Feasibility
See above

Economic Feasibility
The use of the 8 listed products are essential for animal health and welfare bio security schemes to enable farmers to sell animals into the human food chain

Hazards and Risks of the Alternative
With no suitable alternatives

Other Comments
All other alternatives lack efficiacy and practical application:

Alphachloralose
This substance is only used for mouse control indoors and is not approved for the control of rats.

Aluminium phosphide
This fumigant is used only by specially-trained professional pest control technicians. It cannot be used in proximity to buildings because it works by the evolution of a toxic gas which cannot be fully controlled when it has been produced. Although valuable in some circumstances, this property makes aluminium phosphide inappropriate for most rodent control situations in the built environment.

Hydrogen cyanide
Like the previous active substance, this is used only by specially-trained and equipped professionals as a fumigant in hermetically-closed structures.

Carbon dioxide
Once again, this substance is currently restricted for use only against mice indoors. It is dispensed using a special automatic application device which is appropriate only in limited practical use situations.

Powdered corn cob
In comparison with other PT 14 active substances, powdered corn is relatively new to the market. Practical experience of its use is limited and information from published literature on its efficacy is scarce.