Comments provided by: Company-Downstream user, NL

General information
We are very concerned for public health if anticoagulants would no longer be available.

Alternative Identity and Properties
There are no chemical alternatives to anticoagulants in the NL market.

non chemical: trapping (snap trap/live trap) and exclusion and diversification of the land site...farm sites.

Technical Feasibility
any rodenticide would have to be selective and effective. Therefore acute poisons cannot be used, if they would show up into the market, as rats will very soon learn to avoid such rodenticides and big survival rates occur.

calciferol which I have understood may come into the market is also toxic and actually very toxic to dogs.

Economic Feasibility
chemicals....none

non chemical: problematic as trapping is labor intensive and a snap trap only kills once. In large areas to control infestations, traps are simply not economically viable. In malls, shop owners are not the owners of the real estate, therefore not willing or wanting to invest in structural measures to exclude rodents. Farmers don't have the means to hire full time pest control services, which would be required when rodenticides are banned, as otherwise populations would enormously explode and lead to severe economical damages to farmers.

Hazards and Risks of the Alternative
Trapping is labour intensive and in many cases cruel to the animal, because rats and mice try to make a last attempt to escape a trap, leading to inhumane deaths. Also exposure to bio hazard material in traps is much greater than when using rodenticides for the tech operator. Professionals can handle that, however amateurs run the risk for severe health risks.

If in agriculture no longer chemicals can be used to control rodentis, this will likely be the final push to go under. There is no way you can control rodents in farms by exclusion due to the open character of stables and housing and the determination of rodents to enter buildings and stables in autumn and winter. The risks are enormous, economically and for public and animal health. Anticoagulants can simply not be missed in the day to day work in farm pest control services.

Availability
no chemical alternatives to anticoagulants in Holland.

Conclusion on suitability and availability of the alternative
My conclusion is that alternatives are not offering a viable solution.

Other Comments

We have been using rodenticides under IPM in our company [redacted] for many many years. With professional use, in combination with trapping, fencing, shooting and even glue, we have to conclude that rodenticides are far more effective than any other means to control rodents. As we have used some 15 years ago calciferol we also have some experience with that active, which was ok for mice but a total failure agains rats.

The non chemical alternative most used now here is trapping. The problem is the way rodents are caught. Sometimes you catch only a leg or a tail and rats and mice clearly not have died directly, we even see rats gnawing off body parts to get released. Also many non target species are caught in traps. The large rat traps are unsupervised very dangerous for small children, so they should never be allowed to the general public. In large infestations trapping is simply not effective, as rats learn quickly to avoid them, as they see the evidence of what the traps do. Mice are rather difficult to control with traps, due to the size of mice and their agility and their large infestation numbers. Clients are not willing to pay for much more service cost, than they currently pay for. Traditional servicing is based on 6-12 inspections per year. If we are to use traps only, we would have to go to weekly inspections, with €50/hr rates becomes way too expensive for customers. Many clients in Retail already find it too expensive as they have difficulty surviving.