Comments provided by: Partnership for non-chemical rat control, DK

General information

According to our knowledge there is so far no appropriate and effective chemical alternatives to the use of the EU approved chemical rodenticides.

The use of these, however, poses risks to humans and other non-target organisms. Recent studies in Denmark show that rodenticides (anti-coagulants) are alarmingly widespread among rodent eating predators.

As a consequence, there is a clear need to replace the present chemical rodenticides with less harmful substances and in general to develop alternative methods to control rats and mice where these cause problems.

In Denmark we have therefore recently formed a new "Partnership for development of non-poisonous methods to control rats and mice". The partnership involves amongst others the Danish competent authorities and professionals that undertake rat and mouse eradication.

The partnership will run during 2016 and it will involve a very wide range of stakeholders in information exchange activities, workshops and seminars on existing knowledge and possible new methods and approaches. Lessons learned, findings and suggestions will be summarized in information and educational materials as well as guidelines for authorities, users and the public.

It is our hope that the partnership will be able to facilitate a change towards non-poisonous rat and mouse eradication and thus support the reduced use of chemical rodenticides in the future.

The Danish partnership recommends that the EU Commission as well as other EU member states initiate and support similar initiatives in order to facilitate and speed up the development of alternative methods to control rats and mice.