



## Requirements for Second-Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides

### What is happening?

In response to wildlife poisoning from certain rodenticides, the Ministry of Environment and Parks amended the Integrated Pest Management Regulation to restrict the use and sale of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARs).

**Effective Jan. 21, 2023**, rodenticides containing the active ingredients **brodifacoum, bromadiolone or difethialone** are restricted to authorized essential services only. A complete list of essential services allowed to use SGARs is provided at the end of this document (Schedule A).

To use SGARs, essential services require both a pesticide applicator certificate and pesticide use licence. Essential services may only use SGARs as a part of an Integrated Pest Management program.

### What is the issue?

Wildlife may become poisoned by eating rodenticides (primary poisoning) or through eating rodents that have consumed rodenticides (secondary poisoning).

Compared to other rodenticides, SGARs are highly toxic and are retained longer in the body tissues of rodents that consume them. Birds of prey (e.g., owls, hawks, eagles) and other predators or scavengers of rodents are especially at risk of secondary poisoning from SGARs.

### What are the new requirements?

#### Restrictions for Purchase and Use

- SGARs may ONLY be purchased and used by:
  - Licensed essential services, including agricultural operators
  - Licensed pest control companies assisting essential services

#### Key Points

- ▶ Most commercial and residential uses of SGARs are now prohibited.
- ▶ To protect public health, food supply and critical infrastructure, limited SGAR use is allowed in certain essential services.
- ▶ A licence and certificate are now required to use SGARs on public or private land.
- ▶ When purchasing SGARs, essential services require written verification that they are authorized to use SGARs.
- ▶ SGARs may only be used as part of a documented, site-specific Integrated Pest Management program.
- ▶ SGARs can only be used for short-term baiting cycles.
- ▶ Essential services using SGARs must keep records for each SGAR use and submit annual reports to the ministry.
- ▶ Essential services using SGARs must ensure unused bait and dead rodents are properly disposed of.

## Certification and Licensing Requirements

- Essential services using SGARs must obtain both a pesticide applicator certificate and a pesticide use licence from the B.C. Ministry of Environment and Parks.
- A pesticide applicator certificate must be obtained in one of the following four categories:
  - Structural
  - Agriculture – General (Field Crop and Orchard Production)
  - Agriculture – General (Greenhouse Production)
  - Rodent Management in Agriculture

**Please note:** A pesticide applicator certificate must be obtained before applying for a pesticide user non-service licence.

- A detailed table outlining how to obtain these requirements is provided at the end of this document (Schedule B).
- Essential services who would like to continue to use SGARs as a part of their rodent management program, but who do not wish to obtain a pesticide applicator certificate or pesticide licence, may hire a licensed pest control company to apply SGARs on their behalf. A searchable, database of licensed pest control companies offering services in B.C. is available [here](#).

## Restrictions for Purchase of SGARs

- Only the pesticide licence holder of the essential service (licensee) is permitted to purchase SGARs. Agents or employees are no longer permitted to purchase SGARS on behalf of the licensee.
- At the point of purchase, the essential service licensee must present:
  - their valid pesticide non-service user licence;
  - either their own pesticide applicator certificate or the name and certificate number of the person employed by the essential service who will use the SGAR; and
  - documentation that demonstrates that the business or service is an essential service (e.g., letter on company letterhead, business card, employee ID card).

## New Requirements when Using SGARs

- SGARs must only be used for short-term baiting cycles. Long-term baiting with SGARs is no longer permitted.
  - A baiting cycle cannot exceed 35 consecutive days.
  - Multiple baiting cycles can be used, as long as the total number of days does not exceed 120 days in a year.
- Preventative baiting (i.e., baiting without recent signs of rodent activity) is prohibited.

- All licensees are required to develop and follow a site-specific Rodent Management Plan. This plan must be documented and kept but it does not need to be submitted to the ministry unless requested. A template with the required information is provided on the [ministry website](#).
- A licensee may only use SGARs while following the principles of Integrated Pest Management (IPM). SGARs may only be used when:
  - Measures to prevent rodents have been implemented;
  - Alternative rodent control methods, such as traps, have been implemented;
  - Rodent species have been identified;
  - Rodent populations have been monitored;
  - Injury thresholds have been applied; and
  - Effectiveness of previous SGAR applications have been evaluated.
- These IPM steps are described in detail in the guidance document [Rodent IPM: Best Management Practices for Agricultural Operations](#).
- Unused bait and dead rodents must be properly disposed of. Learn more about proper disposal by reading the pesticide label and the guidance document [Best Management Practices: Disposal of Rodenticides](#).

### Record Keeping

- All licensees must **keep daily pesticide use records** when SGARs are used.
  - These daily use records must be kept for three years, but do not have to be submitted to the ministry unless requested.
- The following information must be recorded:
  - Name and address of the owner or manager of the treatment location
  - Name and certificate number of the pesticide applicator using the SGARS
  - Date and time of the pesticide use
  - Name of the target pest (e.g., rat or mouse)
  - Pesticide trade name and registration number
  - Application method, application rate and total amount applied
  - IPM requirements that have been implemented to prevent and manage rodents, including:
    - ▶ monitoring data including species identification and rodent populations;
    - ▶ prevention measures used;
    - ▶ alternative control methods used;
    - ▶ application of injury thresholds; and
    - ▶ evaluation of previous controls used.

- Date when SGARs have been removed from the area where rodents are being managed
- An annual use summary of the total quantities of pesticides applied must be submitted to the ministry each calendar year.
  - If SGARs were purchased online during the year, the Annual Use Summary must also include the name of the company or business where SGARs were purchased.
- New record keeping templates for essential services using SGARs are available on the [ministry website](#).

## Managing Rodents without SGARs

- For information on how to manage rodents without SGARS, or for ideas on developing or improving your existing rodent management plan, see guidance:
  - [Rodent IPM: Best Management Practices for Residents](#)

## Schedule A: Essential Services

Essential services are those working in the following locations:

Column 1 Item	Column 2 Categories of essential service locations	Column 3 Essential service locations
1	Health services	Hospitals
2	Health services	Facilities, other than hospitals, where emergency health care services are provided
3	Health services	Primary health care facilities, including but not limited to assisted living facilities and facilities where day surgeries are performed
4	Health services	Subsidized housing facilities that make available on-site supports for adults, if they are at risk of or are experiencing homelessness
5	Health services	Safe use injection sites
6	Emergency response services, emergency management services and national defence	Department of National Defence facilities

This summary provides guidance and is not a legal document. In all cases the *Integrated Pest Management Act* and Regulation will prevail.

The Rules Have Changed – A Guide for Essential Services Managing Rodents

Column 1 Item	Column 2 Categories of essential service locations	Column 3 Essential service locations
7	Emergency response services, emergency management services and national defence	Canadian Armed Forces, Canadian Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary facilities
8	Emergency response services, emergency management services and national defence	Local, regional, provincial and federal emergency response and emergency management facilities
9	Emergency response services, emergency management services and national defence	Facilities associated with emergency responders, including police, fire, ambulance and 9-11 dispatch
10	Electricity, water, oil and gas and similar services	Infrastructure and facilities associated with the generation, transmission or distribution of electricity, but not including charging stations
11	Electricity, water, oil and gas and similar services	Infrastructure and facilities associated with drinking water, including but not limited to water filtration facilities and water distribution facilities
12	Electricity, water, oil and gas and similar services	Wastewater processing facilities
13	Electricity, water, oil and gas and similar services	Infrastructure and facilities associated with petroleum, natural gas and propane gas production, processing, transmission, distribution and storage, but not including gasoline stations
14	Agriculture and food	Places where land is used for agriculture
15	Agriculture and food	Aquaculture operations
16	Agriculture and food	Facilities for food production, processing, storage and transportation

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Column 1 Item	Column 2 Categories of essential service locations	Column 3 Essential service locations
17	Agriculture and food	Grocery stores, convenience stores, food banks and other places engaged in the provision or retail sale of food, but not including vending machines or stores that primarily sell beverages, pet food, cannabis, liquor or snacks
18	Transportation	Infrastructure and facilities associated with commercial or industrial shipping, including commercial ports, passenger terminals and commercial terminals and shipyards
19	Transportation	Airplane hangars
20	Transportation	Infrastructure and facilities associated with the transportation of passengers and goods by rail
21	Sanitation, waste and recycling services	Waste (garbage and organics) processing facilities
22	Sanitation, waste and recycling services	Recycling processing facilities, including but not limited to recycling transfer stations and recycling collection locations
23	Sanitation, waste and recycling services	Waste disposal facilities, including landfills and waste-to-energy facilities, but not including residential and commercial waste collection areas
24	Communications	Infrastructure and facilities associated with radio, cable television and telecommunications systems and services, including but not limited to cellular towers, broadcasting structures, undersea cable landing stations and internet exchange points, but not including offices and call centres

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Column 1 <b>Item</b>	Column 2 <b>Categories of essential service locations</b>	Column 3 <b>Essential service locations</b>
25	Coroner, mortuary and similar services	Facilities for coroners and facilities where forensic services are performed
26	Coroner, mortuary and similar services	Facilities where mortuary services are performed, including funeral homes, crematoria and cemeteries
27	Coroner, mortuary and similar services	Facilities associated with the storage, transportation and certification of human remains
28	Environmental protection	Places where the government of British Columbia or an agent of the government of British Columbia, the government of Canada or an agent of the government of Canada, or a First Nation engage in a program that has the purpose of conserving or protecting a species or an ecosystem from the impacts of non-native rodents

## Schedule B: Certificate and Licence Requirements

Requirement needed	How to obtain the requirement	Cost	Length of Term
<p><b>Pesticide Applicator Certificate in any of the four categories:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Structural</li> <li>2. Agriculture – General (Field Crop and Orchard Production)</li> <li>3. Agriculture – General (Greenhouse Production)</li> <li>4. Rodent Management in Agriculture</li> </ol>	<p>To obtain a pesticide applicator certificate, applicants may obtain study materials and then must pass an exam.</p> <p>To prepare for the exam, applicants can self-study or take a course through an independent trainer. A list of independent trainers is available <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>Study materials can be purchased online through <a href="#">Crown Publications</a>.</p> <p>Exams can be written at various locations provincewide. Contact Service B.C. to book an exam: <b>1.866.205.2102</b></p> <p>More detailed information on exam bookings and writing exams can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>Exams are open book.</p> <p>Exam results and certificates are mailed to applicants within 3 weeks of taking the exam.</p>	<p>\$90 to write the exam.</p> <p>Cost of study materials varies, depending on the category.</p>	<p>A pesticide applicator certificate is valid for <b>one or five years</b>, depending on the exam score achieved.</p> <p>Exams with a score of 75% or above result in a certificate term of 5 years.</p> <p>Exams with a score between 60%-74% result in a certificate term of 1 year.</p> <p>Exams with a score of 59% and below do not result in a certificate.</p>
<p><b>Pesticide User Non-Service Licence</b></p>	<p>No exam is required to apply for a licence.</p> <p>To apply for a pesticide licence, an applicant will need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A valid pesticide applicator certificate, or employ a person with a pesticide applicator certificate, in the appropriate category.</li> <li>• The applicant’s business to be in <b>good standing</b>, if it is registered with the <a href="#">BC Registrar of Companies</a>.</li> </ul> <p>A <a href="#">completed application</a> and payment can be dropped off in person at the nearest <a href="#">Service BC Centre</a> or emailed to <a href="mailto:applications.sbc@gov.bc.ca">applications.sbc@gov.bc.ca</a>.</p>	<p>\$250 annually</p>	<p>1 year</p>