



Restrictions on Second-Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides

What is happening?

In response to wildlife poisoning from certain rodenticides, the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy 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. All other uses of SGARs are prohibited and sale of these products will be limited to essential services.

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 Use

- SGARs may **ONLY** be purchased and used by:
 - Essential services (including agricultural operators)
 - Licensed pest control companies servicing essential services
- SGARs are **no longer allowed** for use by anyone in or around residential properties, office buildings, parks, schools or retail shops that are not essential services.

Key Points

- ▶ Most commercial and residential uses of SGARs are now prohibited to reduce wildlife poisoning.
- ▶ To protect public health, food supply and critical infrastructure, limited SGAR use is allowed by certain essential services identified in the Integrated Pest Management Regulation.
- ▶ Residents, landlords and businesses not identified as essential can still use other alternative control options (e.g., traps), as well as other rodenticides.
- ▶ An Integrated Pest Management approach to rodent management, including preventative measures, is the most effective method for long-term control.

Managing Rodents without SGARs

- An Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program with a focus on **prevention** is the only long-term solution to managing rodents, and involves:
 - Implementing measures to prevent rodents;
 - Identifying types of rodents to be managed;
 - Monitoring rodent populations and locations;
 - Determining the threshold to know when to act;
 - Selecting best treatment methods, considering rodenticide alternatives; and
 - Evaluating the program effectiveness.
- Effective rodent management programs should always focus on rodent prevention and deterrence.
 - Identify and eliminate rodent entry points, harbourage areas, and food and water sources.
 - If prevention methods are not enough, treatment methods can be considered.
 - Alternatives to rodenticides (e.g., traps) should be used first to reduce rodent populations.
- Many treatment methods are still available for rodent management, such as:
 - Snap traps or electronic traps. These are the best option, as they are effective, quick and humane.
 - Low-toxicity rodenticide products like corn cellulose.
 - Other rodenticides, including first-generation rodenticides (chlorophacinone, diphacinone or warfarin) are available for domestic and commercial use. These should still be used only as a last resort and only on a short-term basis. Always follow the label directions.
- For clients that are not essential services, pest control companies may continue to offer services such as rodent prevention, customized IPM approaches, trapping, and/or baiting with other (non-SGAR) rodenticides within an IPM context.
- For information on how residents can manage rodents without SGARs, see:
 - [Rodent IPM: Best Management Practices for Residents](#)