

## Vertebrate pest baiting

### Pesticide record keeping

This fact sheet provides guidance on how to comply with the record keeping rules for pesticide baiting of vertebrates in connection with agricultural operations as set out in the Pesticides Regulation 2017 (the Regulation).



### What are the pesticide treatments that I need to record?

Under the Regulation, you need to make a record if you use pesticide baits to control vertebrate pests. For example, you must make a record if you:

- use 1080, pindone or other pesticide baits to control vertebrate pests such as wild dogs, foxes, rabbits and feral pigs
- apply in-crop baiting using zinc phosphide to control mice or rats.

If you are taking part in a baiting program, you must make a record of your specific baiting operation.

You **do not** need to make a record if you are using baits to control rodents in or around

buildings in an agricultural setting (e.g. in farm sheds or dwellings).

Fact sheets covering record-keeping rules for pest controllers or anyone who applies pesticide baits on behalf of a public authority are available from the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA).

### What information do I have to record?

To comply with the record keeping rules set out in the Regulation you **must** record:

- the **full product name** of the pesticide bait used (e.g. 1080 Poisoned Bait (in chicken wingettes), Foxoff Foxbait, Foxoff Econobait, Rabbait Pindone Oat Bait, Rabbait 1080 Oat Bait, etc. Recording just '1080' or 'Pindone' is not enough).
- The **situation** in which you used the pesticide (e.g. rabbit control in pasture).
- The **rate** of application and the **quantity** of pesticide bait applied (e.g. used fifty '1080' in chicken wingette baits over 250 hectares, used 10kg 'Mouseoff Zinc Phosphide Bait' over 10 hectares).
- The property **address** and a delineation of the **area** where the pesticide baits were laid (e.g. 2km trail of bait laid in paddock D – if easier, mark the place on a property map). The location of the baits can be detailed on a sketch. You also need to record which area was baited on any given day. This could be done by indicating on the map the areas baited, and the date the baits were laid.
- The **date** on which the pesticide was applied. If you are undertaking a baiting program that runs for several days, then record the first day's activity, then add to this record each day.



- The **name, address and contact details** of the person who applied the pesticide. If you laid the baits yourself, you must write down your details. If you employed someone else to lay the baits, then that person must record **their name** as well as **your name, address and contact details** as their employer. If the baits were laid by a contractor, they must record their own name, address and contact details.

Different record keeping rules apply to situations where baits are distributed from an aircraft, refer to Section 26 (Clause 4) of the Pesticides Regulation 2017. The responsibility for ensuring the record is kept lies with the holder of the aerial applicator business licence. Contact the EPA if you require further information on record keeping rules for aerial pesticide applications.

### What form do I use?

The EPA has a sample record keeping form you can use, but you can make your record in any way you wish, providing it includes the information required.

### When do I make the record?

Records must be made no later than 48 hours after the pesticide baits have been laid.

If the program you are involved in runs for several days or weeks you must record the first day's activity, then add details to that record each day the program continues. You will need to ensure that a complete record is kept of each pesticide application.

### Who makes the record?

If you applied the pesticide yourself, it is your responsibility to make the record and to ensure that it is accurate. **It must be made in English.**

If you're part of a team for a public authority (such as the local council, National Parks and Wildlife Service, etc) and you lay baits by hand or by using hand-held equipment, the on-site supervisor is responsible for making the record. They should make a single record for the group, which includes the names of all pesticide users.

### Who keeps the record and for how long?

If you are required to make a record, you must keep the record for three years.

- You must keep the record if you are the owner or the person who has the management or control of the land on which you or your employees applied the pesticide.
- If you are an employee, you need to give the record to your employer to keep.
- If you are a contractor laying or aerially applying baits in relation to agricultural, farming or forestry operations, you need to keep the record and provide a copy to the owner or the person who has the management or control of the land.

### Where can I get more information?

More information about record keeping is available from the EPA's website at: [www.epa.nsw.gov.au](http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au)

The Pesticides Regulation 2017 has full details of the record keeping requirements. A copy of the *Pesticides Act 1999* and the Regulation can be viewed on the NSW Government legislation website at [www.legislation.nsw.gov.au](http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au).