



BEST PRACTICE GUIDELINE: PEST MANAGEMENT



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Introduction

Pests, including insects, rodents, mammals and birds, must be excluded from any manufacturing or storage premises as they are a significant potential source of microbiological and physical hazards. By using effective practices, manufacturers and storage organisations can keep their operations running, reduce product loss and maintain the facility. This will enhance brand reputation and provide consumer confidence.

This publication looks at key concepts such as monitoring, control measures and eradication, which are part of a pest management system. It provides product manufacturers and storage organisations with a comprehensive framework for the prevention, detection, and control of pests within their facilities. The advice is based on hazard analysis and risk assessment and can help a site to maintain a pest free environment, protect their products and ensure compliance with local health and safety regulations.

The guideline looks at the elements to be considered when setting up, operating and monitoring an integrated pest management programme (IPM). Whether provided internally by the site's trained staff or working in partnership with a competent pest management organisation, the aim is to:

- consider the requirements for establishing an effective preventive pest management programme
- outline how companies and pest management organisations can work together
- identify the requirements for preventing pests from entering the site
- give guidance for the monitoring and eradication of pests
- identify action required when an infestation occurs.

This guideline provides guidance on the control of pests in production facilities for both food and non-food products. An effective pest management system is part of the prerequisites of any site's operational system and therefore, this title is relevant to all BRCGS Standards. Effective pest management remains the full responsibility of the site even where a contractor is employed so the publication will be of interest to anyone responsible for pest management in the site, including maintenance staff, production team leaders and contract managers.

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