



Management of Pest Control

Introduction

The company has established, documented and implemented a pest control system for the site, which is maintained as part of the prerequisite programmes in order to meet the requirements of the Food Safety Quality Management System and ensure the safe production of products.

Procedure

The company operates a proactive system for the prevention of contamination of products by pests and ensures there are effective controls and processes in place to minimise pest activity. This includes ensuring an integrated pest management system is effectively implemented. This procedure is used in conjunction with written Prerequisites and HACCP plans to ensure adequate pest control. The Hazards Associated with pests are the contamination of food by bacteria from pests and their droppings and also unwanted contamination of food with pests' bodies, eggs, hairs or droppings. At the factory design stage measures are taken to reduce the risk of contamination by aiming to restrict the access of pests on site.

Raw materials, packaging and finished products are stored so as to minimise the risk of infestation. Where stored product pests are considered a risk, appropriate measures are included in the control programme. All incoming goods are inspected for pest infestation. Process equipment handling raw materials vulnerable to infestation is identified and scheduled inspection undertaken.

All buildings are required to be adequately proofed to prevent the access of pests as described in:

- PRP 4.1 Design and Construction of Buildings Prerequisite Programmes
- PRP 4.3 Site Location and Standards Prerequisite Programmes
- PRP 5.1 Layout of Premises and Workspace Prerequisite Programmes
- PRP 5.3 Internal Structure Prerequisite Programmes





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Bird Control

Bird control is applied as part of the pest control measures to prevent contamination of food products. Buildings are design so as not to offer attractive roosting areas and bird deterrent measures including spiking and nets are used where appropriate.

Elimination of Pest Habitat

The Field Biologist identifies any possible pest habitat around the site in the quarterly inspections. The Technical Manager takes actions to remove or eliminate favourable conditions for pests including eliminating any rodent burrows, rodent runs and areas that provide harbourage or may attract rodents or other pests to the site or outside grounds.

Pesticide Management

Pesticides are controlled as described in Storage procedures and Chemical Contamination Controls. Pesticides are stored in a locked storage area and are properly ventilated. Pesticide containers and application equipment are labelled and only used for each specific pesticide as per the label. Pesticides are applied and stored according to label directions. Empty pesticide containers are disposed of according to label directions and regulatory requirements, unused obsolete pesticides are secured until collected by the pest control contractor and disposed of as per regulatory requirements.

Pesticides are approved by the Technical Manager before use. Pesticides are only handled and used by authorised personnel as defined in the pest control contract and service agreement.

Pest Control Reporting

Records of all Monitoring devices are maintained, including services performed, to ensure that devices are properly placed and inspected to allow trend analysis of activity.

Pest Control Contractor reports include:

- Signs of pest activity
- Proofing requirements

Document Reference **Management of Pest Control PRP 12**

Revision 1 1st June 2014

Owned by: Technical Manager

Authorised By: General Manager



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- Time
- Type of pests observed
- Actions taken
- Person taking the action and signature

The log is used to identify and eliminate areas where pest activity is observed and to document corrective Actions taken. In the event of an infestation the Technical Manager identifies, evaluates and authorises the release of any potential product affected by the pests. The Field Biologist reviews the log each quarter to identify trends in pest activity. A report of findings is submitted to the Technical Manager for review.

The pest control contractor provides reports for all visits and advises on any trends and corrective actions. Department Managers are allocated corrective or preventative actions which must be completed within the agreed timescale.

Verification of Pest Control Activities

The Technical department and line management are required to conduct documented audits including pest control throughout the site at monthly intervals. Monthly Hygiene and housekeeping audits include inspection for signs of pest activity and also any pest proofing issues requiring attention. Pest Control activities are also verified by quarterly field biologist inspection reports.

The Technical Manager regularly reviews the results of pest control inspections in order to assess and analyse trends and consider the need for further prevention measure or corrective actions. This review is carried out as a minimum annually but also in the event of an infestation.

Responsibility

The Technical Manager is responsible for managing Pest Control on site, liaison with the Pest Control Contractor and maintenance of the Pest Control File.

References

Pest Control File

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