

Vertebrate pest baiting

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 2009 (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, Doggone Wild Dog Bait, Rabbait Pindone Oat Bait, Rabbait 1080 Oat Bait, etc. Recording just '1080' or 'Pindone' is not sufficient).
- The **situation** in which you used the pesticide (e.g. rabbit control in pasture, fox control on rural land, wild dog control in bushland etc.).
- The **rate** of application and the **quantity** of pesticide bait applied (e.g. used fifty '1080' in chicken wingettes baits over 250 hectares, used 10kg 'Mouseoff Zinc Phosphide Bait' over 10 hectares).
- A description of the **equipment** used (e.g. Local Land Services (LLS) bait layer, using cut furrow-trailing method).

- 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 – you can mark the place on a property map if this is easiest for you). You need to record the order in which the baits were laid. The order and location of the baits can be detailed on a sketch of your property. 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** and time of the application, including the **times** you started and finished using the pesticides. If you lay and retrieve the baits over a series of days, you need to make a record of each day's activity, noting the start and finish time for each day's work (e.g. Laid baits between 6am and 3pm on 20 January 2014. Replaced baits at bait station X, Y, Z between 6am and 11am on 22 January 2014).
- 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, the contractor must record their own name, address and contact details.
- The name, address and contact details of the **owner or the person who has the management or control** of the land (e.g. lessee or property manager). You only have to record this information if the person who applies the pesticide bait is not the owner or the person who has the management or control of the land.

Different record keeping rules apply to situations where baits are distributed from an aircraft. 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 that you can use but you can make your record in any way you wish, providing each record includes the information required. If you already keep records for other purposes, such as quality assurance scheme purposes, you can simply add to that record any of the requirements listed above that are not already in that record.

Do I need to keep the information in one place?

No. Some of the information may remain the same from one baiting job to another. You can record the information in one place, such as a log book, and refer to it rather than write out the same details in full each time you need to make a record. You must ensure that a complete record is kept of each pesticide application.

For example, you could keep a book with the names and contact details of the people who lay baits on your property, a list of the full product names of the baits that you use regularly and a sketch of your property. When you need to make a record, you could refer to the specific area on your property sketch where baits are laid, without having to repeat the details already recorded in your log book.

When do I make the record?

Records must be made no later than 24 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 as your job continues. You will need to ensure that each record of each pesticide application is complete.

You need not make a completely new record for each new day. The attached examples show how this can be done.

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Environment Protection Authority

Email: info@environment.nsw.gov.au

Web: www.epa.nsw.gov.au

Phone: 131 555 (NSW only - environment information and publications requests)

TTY users: phone 133 677, then ask for 131 555

Speak and listen users: phone 1300 555 727, then ask for 131 555

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Who makes the record?

If you applied the pesticide yourself, it is your responsibility to make the record. You can get someone else to write it down for you, but it is up to you to make sure the record is made and that it is accurate. **The record must be made in English.**

If you are working as part of a team to lay pesticide baits for a public authority (such as the local council, National Parks and Wildlife Service or Local Land Services) and you lay baits by hand or by using hand-held equipment, the on-site supervisor is responsible for making the record. The on-site supervisor 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 also provide a copy to the owner or the person who has the management or control of the land on which the pesticide was applied.

Where can I get more information?

More information about record keeping is available from the EPA's Environment Line on 131 555 (NSW only) or on the EPA website at:

www.epa.nsw.gov.au/pesticides/risintro.htm

The Pesticide Regulation 2009 has full details of the record keeping requirements. A copy of the *Pesticide Act 1999* and the Regulation can be viewed on the NSW Government legislation website at www.legislation.nsw.gov.au

Example pesticide use record sheet – vertebrate pest baiting (foxes)

Note: Baiting for foxes and wild dogs involves replacing pesticide baits that have been taken during a control program. As a record must be made on each occasion that pesticide baits are laid or replaced, the example below shows how multiple records can be made on a single page.

It is not mandatory to record the information that is shown in a small font and italics. However, it is recommended that you consider recording this information, as it shows that you have complied with the 1080 pesticide control order.

Pesticide record sheet (example)		
Property owner or manager and property address:	Tom Bartlett, 'Springwood', 54 Redbank Road, Millthorpe NSW 2798, Telephone: (02) 6337 4568	
Property address:	As above.	
Date	Time started	Time ended
10/5/14	6am	3pm
12/5/14	6am	4pm
15/5/14	6am	3pm
17/5/14	6am	5pm
20/5/14	6am	6pm
23/5/14	6am	8am
Operator details		
Name of operator:	Fred Smith	
Address:	5 Forbes Street Millthorpe NSW 2798	
Telephone:	(02) 6338 2456	
Boundaries of treated area and order of treatment		
10/5/14	25 bait stations were set up around perimeter of northern half of property, a minimum of 100 metres apart (refer to attached map for locations of bait stations). <i>All distance restrictions followed – 5m from property boundary, 500m from habitation and 10m from domestic water supply.</i>	
12/5/14	Replaced baits at bait stations 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 15, 16 and 20. <i>Obtained 5 additional baits from LLS to use for replacement baiting (issued with 30 baits).</i>	
15/5/14	Replaced baits at bait stations 1, 5, 9, 13, 16, 18, 20 and 24. <i>Obtained 8 baits from LLS to use for replacement baiting.</i>	
17/5/14	Replaced baits at bait stations 1, 5, 9, 13, 16, 20 and 24. <i>Obtained 7 baits from LLS to use for replacement baiting. Removed baits from all other stations (2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 25).</i>	
20/5/14	<i>Checked bait stations 1, 5, 9, 13, 16, 20, 24 – no baits taken.</i>	
23/5/14	<i>Removed untaken baits from bait stations 1, 5, 9, 13, 16, 20, 24.</i>	
Crop or situation of use:	Rural land - control of foxes	
Product used:	Full product name: Foxoff Fox Bait Active constituent: 1080	
Equipment used:	Mattock to dig shallow holes. Buried baits and secured with fishing line to post at each site. <i>Used 10 poison notices and placed them at positions indicated on attached map.</i>	
Quantity applied:	50 baits. <i>On 17/5/14, 18 untaken baits were collected. On 23/5/14, 7 untaken baits were collected. All untaken baits at the time of collection were disposed of in the disposal pit on 'Springwood' and buried to a depth of at least 500mm under the soil.</i>	
Rate:	1 bait/10 hectares or 25 baits over 250 hectares	

Example pesticide use record sheet – vertebrate pest baiting (rabbits)

Note: Although it is not mandatory to record the information that is shown in a small font and italics, it is recommended that you consider recording this information, as it shows that you have complied with the 1080 pesticide control order.

Pesticide record sheet (example)		
Property owner or manager and property address:	Bob Jones, Property Manager, 'Bineden', 450 Mills Road Bethungra 2590, Telephone: (02) 6937 4568	
Property address:	As above	
Date	Time started	Time ended
10/1/14	7am	1pm
Operator details		
Name of Operator:	Fred Smith	
Address:	5 Forbes Street, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650	
Telephone:	02) 6938 2456	
Boundaries of treated area and order of treatment		
10/5/14	2km of bait trail laid as shown on attached map. Started at northern end of paddock (D) and ended at the south western end of the gully in same paddock. <i>No replacement baiting required.</i> <i>All distance restrictions were followed (5m from property boundary, 500m from habitation and 100m from a domestic water supply).</i>	
Crop or situation of use:	Pasture – control of rabbits	
Product used:	Full product name: 1080 Poisoned Bait (carrots) <i>Active constituent: 1080</i>	
Equipment used:	LLS bait layer using cut furrow trailing method. <i>Used 5 poison notices and placed them at positions indicated on attached map.</i>	
Quantity applied:	Used 90kg of 1080 Poisoned Bait in total. <i>Used 3 free feeds to determine quantity of 1080 bait required. 1080 Bait remaining at end of baiting program was collected on 17/01/014 and disposed of in the disposal pit on 'Bineden' and buried to a depth of at least 500mm under the soil.</i>	
Rate:	6kg of product/ha applied over 15 hectares	

Pesticide record sheet

Property owner or manager
and property address:

Property address:

Date

Time started

Time ended

Operator details

Name of operator:

Address:

Telephone:

Boundaries of treated area and order of treatment

Crop or situation of use:

Product used:

Equipment used:

Quantity applied:

Rate: