



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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NEW RULES RELATING TO THE APPLICATION OF RODENT CONTROL PESTICIDES

The rules pertaining to rodent control pesticides have been in existence for many years. Upon a request from the pest management industry, the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) agreed to modify these rules so they would be more in line with current practices and in conformance with new homeowner rodent baiting guidelines set forth by the Environmental Protection Agency. An Advisory Group consisting of pest management professionals and WSDA personnel met in Olympia to develop these new rules and produced a final draft that went through the public hearing process and ultimately was adopted.

Following are highlights of the new rules:

- Clarification regarding placement of loose bait in levels above floors

Loose bait may be placed on the floor of an attic but not above suspended ceilings or on shelves, ledges, cupboards, or counters.

- Information required on labels on the outside of a bait box

Labeling rodent bait boxes can prove difficult, especially in the wet conditions found in Western Washington. One suggested solution is to print the label, laminate it, and zip tie it to the outside of each bait box.

- New requirements for use of rodent tracking powders

Pest management professionals must contact WSDA prior to using these formulations in and around residential structures. Note: this portion of the rule does not apply to commercial or agricultural applications.

Following is a link to the new Rodent Control Pesticide Rules:

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=16-228-1380>

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