COSHH RISK ASSESSMENT

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (as amended)

1. ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Company / Site	Monarch Pest Control Services Ltd.
Assessment reference	COSHH 22
Assessed by	Patrick Condon
Date of assessment	14/10/2026
Review date	(14/10/2027, or sooner if the SDS, label, stewardship conditions or legislation change)
Task / activity	Decanting and placing loose whole wheat bait in tamper-resistant bait stations or covered bait points for rats and mice in and around buildings and in sewers; inspecting and replenishing; searching for and removing carcasses; removing bait at the end of treatment, professional pest control under the UK rodenticide stewardship regime (CRRU)
Location(s) of use	Client Premises
Frequency / duration of use	As required
Quantity used	As required

2. PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION

Product name	**VERTOX WHOLE WHEAT BAIT (SDS title: Vertox Whole Wheat Bait (EU))**
UFI / authorisation no.	UFI (purple): A640-P0GQ-N00W-T93M UFI (red): Q940-6063-Y00D-GMPP GB authorisation: UK-2015-0918-0001 (from supplier listing; check your pack label). SDS gives only Irish numbers IE/BPA 70538-001 (red) and 70538-002 (purple). SDS no. 20910.
Supplier	PelGar International Ltd, Unit 13 Newman Lane, Alton, Hampshire GU34 2QR Tel: +44 (0)1420 80744
Emergency telephone	SDS: +44 (0)1420 80744 (Mon–Fri 9 am–5 pm GMT only) Healthcare professionals: NPIS 0344 892 0111 (24 h) General public: NHS 111 (England, Wales, Scotland); Northern Ireland: GP or NHS 111
Identified use	Biocide: ready-to-use single-feed anticoagulant rodenticide (PT14), micronised whole wheat bait for brown rats and house mice in and around buildings and in sewers. Professional use only, by users holding CRRU-compliant certification. Follow the label.
Active substances	Brodifacoum (CAS 56073-10-0) 0.005 % w/w (50 ppm); denatonium benzoate (bittering agent) 0.001 % per label
SDS reference	PelGar SDS no. 20910, Revision 12, revised 17/01/2022 (supersedes 25/11/2021), to EU Regulation 2015/830
Physical form	Purple or red whole wheat grains, slight odour, relative density 1.27. Combustible; not explosive or oxidising.

3. HAZARD CLASSIFICATION & LABEL ELEMENTS



GHS07
Skin sensitiser



GHS08
Health hazard

Signal word	DANGER
Classification (CLP)	Skin Sens. 1 H317 | Repr. 1A H360D | STOT RE 2 H373 (not classified for physical or environmental hazards)
Hazard statements	H317 May cause an allergic skin reaction. H360D May damage the unborn child. H373 May cause damage to organs (blood) through prolonged or repeated exposure.
Precautionary statements	P201 Obtain special instructions before use. P202 Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood. P260 Do not breathe dust. P280 Wear protective gloves. P308+P313 IF exposed or concerned: Get medical advice/attention. P314 Get medical advice/attention if you feel unwell. P301+P310 IF SWALLOWED: Immediately call a POISON CENTER/doctor. P405 Store locked up. P404 Store in a closed container. P501 Dispose of contents/container in accordance with national regulations.
Supplemental (EUH)	EUH208 Contains 1,2-benzisothiazolin-3-one. May produce an allergic reaction. EUH208 Contains 2-octyl-2H-isothiazol-3-one. May produce an allergic reaction. Keep/store away from foodstuffs, beverages and animal feeding stuffs.
Other hazards	Anticoagulant: toxic to mammals, including pets, and birds if eaten; risk of secondary poisoning. Loose grain is easily spilled or carried off by rodents. No PBT/vPvB substances. Avoid contact during pregnancy or while nursing (SDS section 11).

4. HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS

Substance	CAS / EC	Conc. %	Classification
Brodifacoum	56073-10-0 259-980-5	0.005	Acute Tox. 1 H300, H310, H330; Repr. 1A H360D; STOT RE 1 H372; Aquatic Acute 1 H400 (M=10); Aquatic Chronic 1 H410 (M=10)
1,2-Benzisothiazolin-3-one (BIT, preservative)	2634-33-5 220-120-9	< 1	Acute Tox. 4 H302; Skin Irrit. 2 H315; Eye Dam. 1 H318; Skin Sens. 1 H317; Aquatic Acute 1 H400 (M=1)
2-Octyl-2H-isothiazol-3-one (OIT, preservative)	26530-20-1 247-761-7	< 1	Acute Tox. 3 H301, H311; Acute Tox. 2 H330; Skin Corr. 1B H314; Eye Dam. 1 H318; Skin Sens. 1A H317; Aquatic Acute 1 H400 (M=100); Aquatic Chronic 1 H410 (M=100)
Denatonium benzoate (bittering agent)	3734-33-6 223-095-2	< 0.1 (0.001 per label)	Acute Tox. 4 H302; Aquatic Chronic 3 H412
2,2'-Iminodiethanol (diethanolamine)	111-42-2 203-868-0	< 0.1	Acute Tox. 4 H302; Skin Irrit. 2 H315; Eye Dam. 1 H318; STOT RE 2 H373

5. WORKPLACE EXPOSURE LIMITS (EH40)

Substance	Limit	Basis

Grain dust (whole wheat)	10 mg/m³ 8-hr TWA; 30 mg/m³ 15-min STEL	EH40/2005 (in SDS). Also a respiratory sensitiser (asthmagen) under EH40
Propane-1,2-diol	Particulates 10 mg/m³; total vapour and particulates 150 ppm / 474 mg/m³ 8-hr TWA	EH40/2005 (in SDS; not listed in section 3)
Diethanolamine	0.46 ppm / 2 mg/m³ 8-hr TWA	EH40/2005 (added; not in SDS). Trace amount
Brodifacoum	None assigned	–

6. ROUTES OF EXPOSURE & HEALTH EFFECTS

Route	Likelihood	Effects (from SDS)
Inhalation	☐ Low ☒ Med ☐ High	Grain dust when pouring or decanting (P260). Unlikely to be a hazard unless dusty; grain dust can cause respiratory irritation and asthma.
Skin contact	☐ Low ☒ Med ☐ High	Handling grain. May cause an allergic skin reaction (isothiazolinone preservatives) or irritation in susceptible people; prolonged contact may dry the skin.
Eye contact	☒ Low ☐ Med ☐ High	Dust may cause eye irritation in susceptible people.
Ingestion	☐ Low ☒ Med ☐ High	Main hazard (hand-to-mouth, or children/pets/livestock eating spilled grain). Anticoagulant: delayed bleeding and bruising. Repeated exposure may damage the blood (H373) and the unborn child (H360D). Antidote: Vitamin K1.
Environment	☐ Low ☒ Med ☐ High	Product not classified, but used outdoors and in sewers. Brodifacoum is very toxic to fish (LC50 0.042 mg/l) and Daphnia (EC50 0.25 mg/l). Grain is attractive to birds; secondary poisoning risk from carcasses.

7. PERSONS AT RISK

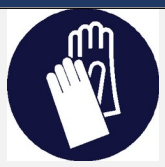
Group	At risk?	Notes
Pest control operatives	☒ Yes ☐ No	Dust and skin contact when decanting; hand-to-mouth transfer; handling carcasses
Other employees / staff on site	☒ Yes ☐ No	Inform staff of bait point locations; do not touch or disturb stations
Public / customers / occupants	☒ Yes ☐ No	Bait only in tamper-resistant stations or covered points; warning labels
Children & pets, livestock, birds, wildlife	☒ Yes ☐ No	Grain looks like feed and is very attractive to birds and livestock; secondary poisoning of predators and pets eating dying rodents
New / expectant mothers, young persons	☒ Yes ☐ No	Repr. 1A H360D: pregnant or nursing workers should not handle this product; individual risk assessment (MHSW Regs 1999, reg. 16)

8. CONTROL MEASURES

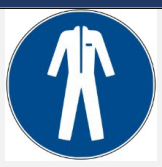
Elimination / substitution	Follow the CRRU Code of Best Practice: proofing, hygiene and traps first. Choose the least toxic suitable active; brodifacoum outdoors only as permitted by the label (around buildings, sewers). Consider blocks or sachets where loose grain could be scattered.
Engineering controls	Place bait only in tamper-resistant bait stations or

	covered, secured bait points, out of reach of children, pets, livestock and birds, labelled 'Do not move or open', 'Contains a rodenticide', product name or authorisation number, active substance, and 'In case of incident call a poison centre – UK: 111'. Secure bait in sewers so it cannot be washed away.
Safe handling	Wear gloves. Decant with a scoop in a ventilated area; avoid creating dust; do not breathe dust (P260). Keep the sack closed when not in use. Use label rates, inspect at the label's intervals, remove spilled bait and carcasses, and remove bait at the end of treatment. Keep bait records and a site plan.
Hygiene	Do not eat, drink or smoke while working. Wash promptly if skin is contaminated; wash after use and before eating, smoking and using the toilet. Wash contaminated clothing before reuse.
Storage	Locked, cool, well-ventilated store, original sack tightly closed and upright, protected from damage; away from food, drink, animal feed, oxidisers, heat and flames; out of reach of children. Protect from rodent access.
Training / information	Operatives hold CRRU-compliant certification (e.g. RSPH/BPCA Level 2 Award in Pest Management or equivalent) and are briefed on this assessment, the label and the SDS.

9. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT



Protective gloves



Protective clothing

PPE	Requirement (from SDS)	Standard / notes
Hand	Suitable chemical-resistant gloves (P280)	EN ISO 374 nitrile. Also for carcasses
Eye / face	No specific eye protection in normal use	Safety glasses (EN 166) if decanting creates dust
Body	Select according to the task	Work clothing or coveralls; wash before reuse
Respiratory	No specific recommendation; adequate ventilation	FFP2 disposable mask (EN 149) if decanting bulk grain creates dust (added, not in SDS)

10. FIRST AID

General	Seek medical advice immediately and show the label. Brodifacoum is an indirect anticoagulant; symptoms may be delayed. First aiders should wear protective equipment.
Inhalation	Move to fresh air; keep warm and at rest. Get medical attention if symptoms are severe or persist.
Skin contact	Take off contaminated clothing immediately. Wash with plenty of soap and water and seek medical advice. If a rash develops, get medical attention.
Eye contact	Rinse immediately with plenty of water for several minutes and seek medical advice if irritation persists.
Ingestion	Rinse mouth thoroughly. Do NOT induce vomiting. Get medical attention immediately (P301+P310); call NHS 111 (NPIS for clinicians).
Note for doctors	Vitamin K1 (phytomenadione) is antidotal. Check prothrombin time no sooner than 18 hours after ingestion; if raised, give Vitamin K1 until normal, and keep checking for two weeks after stopping the antidote.

11. SPILLAGE, FIRE & DISPOSAL	
Accidental release	Wear gloves and protective clothing. Clear spills immediately: sweep or shovel grain into a sealable waste container (do not leave grain for birds or animals), then wash the area with water. Keep out of drains, watercourses and soil. Wash thoroughly afterwards.
Spill kit location	
Fire	Not flammable as such (combustible solid). Alcohol-resistant foam, CO2, dry powder or water fog; not a water jet. Harmful gases in combustion. Self-contained breathing apparatus.
Waste disposal	Unused bait, spilled grain, contaminated packaging (unless fully cleaned) and carcasses via a licensed hazardous-waste contractor. EWC 20 01 19* (pesticides), per SDS.
Transport	Not regulated as dangerous goods (ADR/RID, IMDG, IATA). No transport warning sign required. Carry in a secure, lockable compartment separate from the cab.

12. SIGN-OFF			
Role	**Name**	**Signature**	**Date**
Assessor	Patrick Condon	Patrick Condon	19th October 2026
Manager / approver	George McConville	George McConville	19th October 2026

Source: PelGar Vertox Whole Wheat Bait (EU) Safety Data Sheet no. 20910, Revision 12 (17/01/2022). Read alongside the current SDS, product label and CRRU UK Code of Best Practice, and review for site-specific conditions.