



Practical Biosecurity Programs
Standard Biosecurity Protocol (SBP)
SBP 16

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Pest Control: Rodents

1. **Purpose:** To prevent disease transmission by rodents
2. **Responsibility:** Farm Staff
3. **Frequency:** Ongoing
4. **Biosecurity Protocols**
 - 4.1 The rodent species of concern on farm sites in our region are rats and mice
 - 4.2 Rodents are natural carriers of disease and parasites. They are considered filthy, garbage loving, disease ridden and disease transmitting
 - 4.3 When rodents are present they can introduce disease, spread disease and carry over disease from one production cycle to the next
 - 4.4 Rodents require food and shelter to establish on a farm site. Since we provide these for the livestock and poultry we keep, rodents are naturally attracted to livestock/poultry operations



Picture 16.1



Picture 16.2

Biosecurity Workshop, 2005

4.5 Eliminate access to shelter

- 4.5.1 Rodent control then is challenged to keep rodents out of barns, away from feed and shelter and providing a habitat that is uninviting to them
- 4.5.2 Use barn doors that fit snugly when closed and keep barn doors closed



Picture 1, Oderkirk, 2007



Picture 2, Oukema, 2005

- 4.5.3 If doors have to be open, use screening small enough to prevent entry (1/4 in. mesh)
- 4.5.4 Open sided barns or windows also have to be screened
- 4.5.5 Keep barn in good repair inside and out
- 4.5.6 There are to be no cracks in walls, ceilings or floors
- 4.5.7 There is to be no garbage, junk or debris stored within the CAZ
- 4.5.8 There is to be no equipment storage within the CAZ
- 4.5.9 The vegetation in the CAZ is to be kept cut or eliminated
- 4.5.10 Maintain a 1 meter (3 ft.) rodent barrier around the barn using gravel, shale, sand, etc.



Picture 3, Oderkirk, 2008



Picture 4, Oderkirk, 2009

- 4.5.11 Mortalities are to be stored in sealable containers until removed from the farm site
- 4.5.12 Only short term storage of manure and litter at clean-out. This waste is removed off the farm site
- 4.5.13 Compost piles are to be located away from the CAZ areas of the farm site

4.6 Eliminate access to feed

- 4.6.1 Cleanup any spilled feed immediately
- 4.6.2 Cleanup any manure spills immediately
- 4.6.3 Feed storage must be in rodent proof feed bins
- 4.6.4 Carry out a proper sanitation program in and around the animal facility
- 4.6.5 Garbage containers must be sealable and kept closed at all times, with regular garbage disposal or municipal pickup

- 4.6.6 Keep laneway and yard clean and graded with no accumulation of water/puddles



Picture 5, Oderkirk,2008



Picture 6, Oderkirk, 2008

4.7 Eliminating a rodent population

- 4.7.1 Monitor for rodent activity and record observations on the **SBF6: Pest Control Chart**
- 4.7.2 Use external bait stations around the exterior of the animal facility and other buildings located in the CAZ. Record bait used on the **SBF 5: Disinfectant, Pesticide & Herbicide Use Chart**
- 4.7.3 Bait stations can also be used along interior walls of other buildings and anterooms where animals and animal feed and bedding are not present
- 4.7.4 Types of rodent bait (rodenticides) that are available can be found in **SBP 15: Pesticides for Biosecurity Purposes**
- 4.7.5 Mechanical traps can be used along interior walls of rooms or buildings where contact with animals or product is possible. Record results from traps on the **SBF6: Pest Control Chart**. Make sure traps are against the walls as this is where rodents travel and minimal placement is done by each exterior door
- 4.7.6 Increase the number of bait stations or traps in the areas where there is more rodent activity observed



Pictures 7 & 8, Oderkirk, 2009

5. Biosecurity Deviation Protocols

- 5.1** If the rodent control protocols are not followed and rodents are increasing, immediately institute a rigorous monitoring, baiting, trapping program and keep record on the **SBF 6: Pest Control Chart**

6. Biosecurity Records

SBF 5: Disinfectant, Pesticide & Herbicide Use Chart

SBF 6: Pest Control Chart