



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 Operational Prerequisite programme 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 procedure is used in conjunction with written Prerequisite, Operational Prerequisite and HACCP plans to ensure adequate pest control. 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 as described in the prerequisite programmes manual. In order to prevent risk of contamination no animals are allowed on site.

The company employs a Pest Control Association registered pest control contractor to implement a pest control programme and maintain the site free from pest contamination.

The contract agreement defines:

- company and contractor key contact personnel
- description of contracted services and how they will be completed
- term of the contract
- equipment and material storage specifications
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Authorised By: General Manager





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- a complete inventory of pesticides (must be approved by the regulatory authority for use in a food facility) detailing the safe use and application of baits and other materials such as insecticide sprays or fumigants
- emergency call out procedures
- records to be maintained
- requirement to notify facility of any changes in service or materials used
- Service personnel including evidence of competency by exam from a recognized organization

The contracted service provides:

- monthly site visits and inspections including service records describing current levels of pest activity and recommendations for taking Corrective Actions.
- inspections including the periphery and internal and external buildings
- the provision of a plan/diagram of the site showing the location of all pest control monitoring and prevention measures
- flying insect controls including fly killing units
- emergency 24 hour call-out service
- quarterly biologist inspection reports, visit and trend reports with recommendations
- a current copy of the certificate of insurance that specifies the liability coverage
- Spill control materials and procedures
- Material Safety Data Sheet information to ensure proper usage of pesticide chemicals.

Both the contract and service agreement information are held in the Pest Control File which is managed by the Technical Manager who has overall responsibility for pest control on site.

Before agreeing to a contract the Technical Manager verifies that the pest control contractor is qualified. Copies of training records and qualifications are held in the pest control file for each person who performs pest management services on site. At the start of the contract a detailed survey of the entire facility is completed by a qualified Field Biologist and the results are documented and used to determine placement of monitoring devices.

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