



Appendix VC.1

Vermin Control Policy

This policy relates to controlling pests and rodents within and around feed storage areas.

Control

- Ensure all bagged feed is stacked tidily on pallets off the floor and away from the walls
- All spilt food under feed bins should be swept up and removed
- Feed stored loose on the floor or in bunkers should be covered unless the whole building can be vermin proofed
- Temporary baits - Check baits every week and continue baiting for one week after baits have stopped being taken
- Permanent baits - Check baits every 2 weeks. If signs of feeding are found replenish the bait and re-survey the premises. Place baits in drain pipes placed at the base of straw
- Baits must be placed safely; they should not be accessible to non-target species and not contaminate feed.



Survey

- Ensure feed storage areas are checked for pests on a regular basis.

Clean

- Remove and dispose of all dead rodents found and all unused clearance bait boxes
- Prevent access to the bait by children and other animals
- Remove all rubbish and overgrown vegetation from outside the buildings. Keep weeds and grass short

Proof

- Block all holes wherever possible. Wire mesh on windows should be no larger than 6 mm to keep out mice. Seal junctions between walls, floors and ceilings with metal sheeting.
- Seal water cisterns and header tanks. Seal and remove obsolete plumbing.