



**Pest management industry recommends that anti-coagulant rodenticides remain accessible for trained professionals as long as there is no effective alternative**

*Brussels, June 2013* - In light of a new survey on Risk Mitigation Measures for anti-coagulant rodenticides launched by the European Commission, the **Confederation of European Pest Management Associations (CEPA) reiterates the importance of maintaining access to anti-coagulants for trained pest management professionals as long as no effective alternative to control infestations is readily available.**

Background

In Europe most pesticide products used by urban pest management professionals are regulated by the Biocidal Products Directive. In some countries (i.e. Spain, Germany, France, Malta, Hungary, the Netherlands ...) standards and/or qualification processes for individuals have been introduced. However, there is currently no common harmonized requirement across Europe for the licensing and monitoring of either the pest management companies themselves, or the technicians who undertake the application.

This situation will soon change as the Confederation of European Pest Management Associations (CEPA) and its members are in the process of developing a European standard for the pest management industry together with the European Standards Institute (CEN).

CEPA wishes to underline that one should remain vigilant vis à vis the public health consequences if the means to adequately control rodent populations in Europe were to be curtailed. As today no significant and effective alternative to anti-coagulant rodenticides is readily available and that a major infestation would have serious consequences for the public health situation (leptospirosis, etc. ...), the use of anti-coagulants remains essential in order to manage pest populations successfully.

CEPA recommends

- **that anti-coagulants should remain accessible for trained pest management professionals as long as no viable alternative is available to manage pests endangering the health of citizens, animals and the environment in which they live;**
- **that through the publication of the CEPA/CEN standard and the promotion of certification to this standard, CEPA contribute to identify trained pest management professionals.**

The European Professional Pest Management Industry

The European professional pest management industry plays an important role in protecting public health and keeping homes, schools, recreational areas, hotels, food manufacturers, retail companies and others safe, pest and disease-free.

The European pest management industry is worth in excess of € 3000 million, employs more than 40.000 people in 10,000 + companies throughout Europe, the majority of which are small and medium sized enterprises.

*The Confederation of European Pest Management Associations (CEPA) is based in Brussels where it represents the European professional pest management industry. It unites and federates 23 national and regional associations as well as associates from pest management servicing companies, manufacturers and distributors.*