Methodological guidance for the implementation of integrated pest management

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All the practices and rules set out in this document will be based on the principles of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) so as to protect public health while minimising risks to humans, non-target species of fauna and flora, and the environment. IPM is a system that considers the use of all available methods of pest elimination, with the subsequent integration of appropriate measures to deter the development of pest populations, to keep interventions at an economically viable and justified level, and to reduce or minimise the risks to public health and the environment.

The procedures and measures must be implemented in compliance with all the legislative regulations. The implementation process must be safe, effective and carried out by a person professionally qualified to perform protective special extermination, disinsection and disinfection ("EDD"). The aim is to control pests, while minimising health risks and economic losses. To achieve this, it is necessary to comply with the applicable EU legislation and statutory regulations, as well as the principles set out by the World Health Organization (WHO) with regard to the objectives of IPM.

List of required documents proving the implementation of special protective extermination to the control authorities:

- Qualifications of the company/Qualifications of the professionally qualified person
- Valid certificate as a professionally qualified person
- Service logs logs from individual visits
- Effectiveness assessment
- Plans for the deployment of extermination stations

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- Description of the integrated pest management system extermination plan
- Summary reports for the period in question

The products used must be handled in accordance with their safety data sheet and used only in accordance with the label. The instructions in the labels and safety data sheets of EDD products are binding and must be followed in full. They must always be used in manner that ensures maximum safety and prevents access by unqualified persons, children and non-target animal species, while at the same time they may not endanger the environment or contaminate foodstuffs. EDD products may only be used to the extent strictly necessary so as to achieve their purpose and to ensure that living conditions are not endangered or damaged.

EDD intervention, preventive activities

1. Habitat inspection/assessment

In the event of a suspected pest infestation or in the case of preventive action, a competent person must, without fail, carry out an inspection and a thorough assessment of the habitat, which includes:

- Reviewing and evaluating the effectiveness of previous inspections and interventions. If extermination has already been carried out at the site, the previous effectiveness, risk factors and other actions involved in the previous intervention must be checked.
- Determining the presence and type of pests.
- Assessing the extent and distribution of their occurrence. An entry must be made in the habitat plan, giving details of any obvious signs of infestation and an assessment of the extent, which is for preliminary assessment only (e.g. obvious and high infestation, low incidence, etc.).
- Assessing local factors that may contribute to the further spread of the outbreak. As part of the assessment of local factors, an assessment will also be carried out of the risks on the site related to the possible presence of pests (meaning hygiene deficiencies e.g. waste in unsealed containers, infrequent waste collection, untidy surroundings of buildings providing sufficient shelter, tall vegetation, overgrown vegetation in the vicinity; structural deficiencies open means of access to buildings (gutters, drains, vents), gates, windows, doors kept open or not closing properly, inadequate fencing around the site; or storage deficiencies pests brought in by a supplier, commodities stored for a long time, etc.).
- Determining measures to be taken to mitigate the risks of the further spread of contamination or re-contamination. This will include an inventory of measures following a basic identification of the most high-risk factors that cause the presence of pests on the site.

2. Determination of preventive and corrective measures, EDD Plan

If the presence of pests is confirmed, a specific assessment will follow, resulting in an intervention plan. The intervention risk assessment must be based on an evaluation of all potential factors that may result in damage to health, property and the environment identified within the environment itself. The risk assessment will include the following evaluation:

- Threats arising from the character, structure and nature of the premises on the site
- The risks of the use of substances hazardous to human health during the extermination process
- Equipment for the performance of extermination work, PPE and ensuring their use
- Ecological impacts, environmental protection through contamination of soil or watercourses

- Risks of non-target species being poisoned if the extermination product, if used, is ingested
- Management of waste or hazardous waste

Rules must be established for risks to ensure compliance with the safety measures.

EDD must be carried out in accordance with the laws listed below. Act No. 258/2000 Coll., on the protection of public health and amending certain related acts - Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the making available on the market and use of biocidal products - Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures (CLP) - Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1179 amending, for the purposes of its adaptation to scientific and technical progress, Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008 on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures - Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1376 to 83 of 25 July 2017 renewing the approval of warfarin, chlorophacinone, coumatetralyl, difenacoum, bromadiolone, brodifacoum, difethialone, flocoumafen as active substances for use in biocidal products of product-type 14 - Act No. 324/2016 Coll, Act No. 350/2011 Coll., on chemicals and chemical mixtures and amending certain acts (Chemical Act) 7 - Act No. 246/1992 Coll., on biocidal products and active substances and amending certain related acts (Chemical Act), Act No. 166/1999 Coll., on veterinary care and on amending certain related acts - Act No. 114/1992 Coll., on nature and landscape protection - Decree No. 395/1992 Coll. of the Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic, implementing certain provisions of Act No. 114/1992 Coll. - Regulation (EC) No. 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council on food hygiene - Act No. 110/1997 Coll., on food and tobacco products and on amendments to certain related acts - Act No. 185/2001 Coll., on waste and on amendments to certain other acts - Decree No. 490/2000 Coll., on the scope of knowledge and other conditions for acquiring professional competence in certain fields of public health protection - CSN EN 166 36 Services provided in the framework of pest control.

The extermination plan may include two different scenarios:

- a) No rodents were found during the inspection and habitat assessment, but the habitat conditions were found to be favourable for pests. In this case, the professionally qualified person must consider the deficiencies in relation to the need for modifications to the structure or building, sanitary issues, and propose appropriate corrective measures.
- b) During the inspection and habitat assessment, the presence of pests was detected. In this case, the actions from point a) will be performed and the specific intervention method will be chosen. The extermination plan will determine the appropriate extermination method, define a schedule of measures and evaluate all the relevant factors of the local habitat. When selecting extermination methods, the IPM principles must be followed.

3. Extermination process

Where EDD is necessary, the assessment will include a rational justification for the use of:

- physical methods e.g. the use of traps, glue boards, relocation of the pest source, repair of holes in the building shell, the addition of physical barriers, etc.,
- biological methods e.g. the deployment of natural interspecific predators of the pest,
- other non-chemical methods e.g. changing the system used to store and dispose of waste, modifying the methodological instruction to cleaning companies, modifying the green maintenance plan, etc,
- any other measures as appropriate.

All other extermination methods must always be considered first before chemical measures can be proposed. Any use of chemical exterminators must always be kept to the necessary minimum and appropriate protective measures must be taken. Before using an extermination product, the professionally qualified person must read and follow the information on the label and safety data sheet and any information accompanying the product or provided by the manufacturer or distributor in the Czech Republic.

All treated areas - in buildings, in open areas, at park entrances, etc. - must be marked with a warning label. At the same time, a notice must be placed in the open space informing about the extermination of the treated area. A warning label about the extermination treatment must draw attention to the use of the product and warn adults to prevent children and pets from coming into contact with the product. The label must contain the following information: - Do not move or open - Contains a pest control product - Product name or authorisation number - Active ingredient(s) - In case of accident, call the Poison Control Centre, tel: 224 919 293 and 224 915 402 - Dangerous to wildlife. The label should also include the contact details of the extermination company, the number of the extermination station, space (e.g. a small table) for entering the extermination inspection date and the QR code or EAN.

Requirements for EDD traps (extermination stations):

- They must withstand forced opening, be lockable, strong, and attachable to a solid base. The type must be appropriate to the character of the site (they must not be placed near watercourses or in places where there is a risk of flooding) and withstand climatic conditions.
- Precautions must be taken to ensure that the exterminating agent cannot leak into the outside environment. Precautions must be taken to minimise any dispersion of the product into the environment and any possible contamination of the surrounding environment.
- Extermination stations must be located away from children, birds, pets, livestock and other non-target animals.

- Extermination stations must not be placed near food, drink and feed, or tools or surfaces that come into contact with them.
- Between applications, the extermination stations and the tools used in the covered and protected areas with the exterminating agent must not be washed with water.
- If damaged by water or contaminated with dirt, the baits must be removed and replaced.
- Chemical-resistant protective gloves must be worn when handling the product (the glove material to be specified by the authorisation holder in the product information). If necessary, use any other personal protective equipment (e.g. goggles or a mask) that is required when handling the product.
- It is forbidden to eat, drink or smoke when applying the preparation. After using the product, the hands and any skin that has come into direct contact with the product must be washed thoroughly.

4. Formal record, extermination report and recommendations

A formal record of the intervention must be issued by the professionally qualified person at the specified interval. Required formal record information:

- Identification of the company/professionally qualified person
- Name and address of the intervention site, signature of the responsible person
- Confirmation that the agreed service has been completed and any deviations reported. The record will include the date, time, type of service rendered, including a record of the methods and preparations used, and the area of use. The record must also include confirmation of the effectiveness of the extermination carried out (number of pests eliminated in the case of rodents; elimination of identified signs of infestation, etc.).
- Any recommendations for action to prevent recurrence.
- Time limit for re-intervention, if applicable.
- The report may be accompanied by photographic documentation.

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