

General Insecticide Usage – Method Statement

1. Scope of Work

This method statement details the safe, legal, and effective use of **public-health insecticides** for the control of insect pests including flying, crawling, and stored-product insects in domestic, commercial, and industrial settings.

It ensures compliance with BPCA guidance, statutory UK legislation, and Red Pencil Pest Control's internal safety management procedures.

2. Relevant Legislation and Guidance

- Food & Environment Protection Act 1985 (FEPA)
- Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986 (COPR)
- Biocidal Products Regulation 2012 (GB BPR)
- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) 2002
- Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations 1999
- Health & Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Regulations 2002
- Carriage of Dangerous Goods Regulations 2009
- BPCA Codes of Best Practice – Insecticide Usage, Precautionary Invertebrate Treatments, Pesticide Waste, Storage of Pesticides & Vehicle Storage

3. Objectives

- Ensure insecticides are used **only where justified** and evidence of infestation exists.
- Protect human health, non-target organisms, and the environment.
- Ensure insecticide application is **safe, controlled, and fully documented**.
- Maintain full traceability of products, batch codes, and quantities applied.

4. Pre-Treatment Assessment

1. **Confirm infestation** – identify target species and activity levels.
2. Complete all relevant assessments:
 - COSHH Risk Assessment
 - Health & Safety Risk Assessment
 - Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA)
 - Justification for treatment (visual evidence or monitoring data)
3. Select the most appropriate **product, formulation, and equipment** for the situation.

5. Product Selection

- Only use insecticides **authorised for professional use** under COPR or GB BPR.
- Always read and follow **label instructions** – the label is the law.
- Consider:
 - Pest species and location
 - Active ingredient(s) and formulation type
 - Resistance management (rotate actives where appropriate)
- Maintain up-to-date **COSHH assessments** and SDS for every product.
- Keep concentrated insecticide in its **original labelled container**.

6. Mixing and Dilution

- Select a **safe, well-ventilated area** for mixing.
- Wear PPE as per label and SDS (gloves, goggles, coveralls, RPE if required).
- Do not contaminate surfaces or drains.
- Mix only the quantity required for that day's treatment.
- Follow label dilution rates precisely and ensure equipment calibration.

7. Application

- Use only **serviceable and calibrated** sprayers, dusters, or ULV/fogging equipment.
- Apply insecticide to target surfaces, cracks, and crevices where insects harbour.
- Exclude **people, pets, and non-targets** from the treatment area until surfaces are dry.
- Apply at the **lowest effective rate** to achieve control and minimise exposure risk.
- Maintain clear signage or exclusion tape if required.

8. Post-Treatment

- Ensure treated surfaces are left undisturbed until dry.
- Provide the customer with clear **after-care instructions**, including re-entry times and cleaning restrictions.
- Leave a written **Treatment Record** detailing:
 - Product and active ingredient
 - HSE or BPR Authorisation Number
 - Quantity and dilution used
 - Application areas and exclusion guidance
- Advise on follow-up visits or proofing to prevent reinfestation.

9. PPE and Operator Safety

- PPE must meet EN standards and be appropriate for formulation type.
- Typical PPE includes:
 - Chemical-resistant gloves (nitrile)
 - Disposable coveralls
 - Eye protection
 - RPE (A2P3 filters for vapours/particles as per COSHH)
- Inspect PPE before each use and replace damaged items immediately.
- Wash hands and face before breaks and at the end of work.

10. Storage, Transport & Waste

- Store insecticides in accordance with BPCA Codes of Best Practice:
 - Locked, bunded, well-ventilated storage away from food and water.
 - Vehicle storage secured and segregated from the driver's cab.
- Dispose of insecticide waste, containers, and contaminated PPE under the **Pesticide Waste CoBP**.
- Keep waste-transfer notes for a minimum of **two years**.

11. Training & Competence

All RPPC technicians must:

- Hold **RSPH Level 2 Award in Pest Management** (or equivalent).
- Receive COSHH and product-specific application training.
- Undertake annual CPD via **BPCA Registered** or equivalent.
- Demonstrate competence in equipment use and safe handling.

12. Records & Documentation

- Site Survey & Justification Form
- COSHH Assessment for each product
- Risk Assessment / ERA
- Treatment Report & Product Record
- Waste Disposal Record

All records are retained for a minimum of **two years**.

13. Review

This method statement will be reviewed annually, or sooner if product regulations, BPCA Codes, or operational practices change.

Prepared by: Red Pencil Pest Control Ltd

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Technician Signature:

