

Guidance Document

Identifying and reporting illegal internet sales of rodenticides and other pesticides

Most pesticides and rodenticide being sold online are legal. Only certain products have restrictions on who can buy and sell them. It's important that we only report issues of **illegal sales**.

The British Pest Control Association and the Crop Protection Association have teamed up to create

this guide to help you identify illegal sales and point you in the direction of where to report them.

To makes things easier, we will start by breaking down the types of pesticides and the requirements for selling each online.

Rodenticides - professional use only

The rule for listing professional use rodenticides online are as follow:

Authorisation

Only products currently authorised in the UK by Health and Safety Executive (HSE) are legal to sell online. The current UK Authorisation number for the product must be stated in the online description.

Marketing images

All products offered for sale online must show representative pictures of the current legally authorised pack type as available for sale.

Original packaging

All products offered for sale must be supplied in the original packaging with the original label as provided by the marketing company or authorisation holder. Products must never be broken down from the original packaging into smaller amounts for sale. This is illegal.

Correct outdoor use statement

The products must never simply use the term "outdoors". The area of use must be described as per the product label, for example "In and around buildings", "Outdoors - open spaces", "Outdoors - waste dumps".

In accordance to Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use (CRRU) guidelines

All sales of professional use only rodenticides must follow the CRRU UK Guidance for Internet Sales of Rodenticides thinkwildlife.org/download/crru-uk-guidance-for-internet-sales-of-rodenticides

Where to report

All sellers in the UK should be adhering to the CRRU UK Guidance for Internet Sales of Rodenticides. If you see anyone selling professional rodenticides online that are not meeting the above requirements please report to thinkwildlife.org/stewardship-regime/report-a-concern

Rodenticides - amateur use only

Amateur rodent control products have a maximum pack size of:

- 300g for Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (SGARs)
- 1500g for First Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (SGARs).

This restricts the ability of amateurs to acquire large quantities of rodenticide through retail sources (both online and in physical shops).

Where to report

Any sales of amateur use only products above the maximum pack sizes above please report to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) via their online reporting system hse.gov.uk/contact/concerns.htm



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Other pesticide sales

To decide if a pesticide (other than a rodenticide) is being sold illegally you first must work out whether a pesticide is professional or amateur use only.

If a pesticide is a home garden (amateur) product it will usually say so on the label:



The following information will be displayed on the pesticide label:

- Product name
- MAPP number.

There are a few ways to see if a product is professional.

The label stating "operator protection" or "biological use" will indicate that it's professional use

The best way to check whether a product is professional use or not is to check the product in CRD's pesticides database using the product's name or MAPP number at secure.pesticides.gov.uk/pestreg/ProdSearch.asp

To do this:

Type in the MAPP number or product names or just search using the 'Picklist' (on the right) and press 'Get Results'

The following info list should appear:

Product (MAPP No)	Product Expiry Date (date)	Marketing Company	Crop(s) (may have different)
Caesar 15272	31/10/2021	AgChemAccess Holdings Ltd	forage maize, potato

Select the product you're checking. You should then get to a screen like this:

Product Name:	Caesar
MAPP (Reg.) Number:	15272
Authorisation Holder:	AgChemAccess Limited
Marketing Company:	AgChemAccess Holdings Ltd
Active Substance(s):	25.000 % w/w rimsulfuron
Formulation Type:	Water soluble granule
Field of Use:	Herbicide
Crops:	forage maize, potato
Amateur / Professional:	Professional
LERAP Category:	n/a
Aquatic Use:	No

It will state if the product is amateur or professional.

If the product is being incorrectly listed as amateur use then you should report it.

Only buy pesticides that have been authorised for storage and use in the UK. Look for the MAFF, MAPP or HSE approval number on the label on the container. You can find lists of authorised products on HSE's Website.

Where to report

If you see anyone selling professional products online that are not meeting the above requirements please report to crd.ppp.compliance@hse.gov.uk

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Illegal sales of rodenticides and pesticides on eBay

BPCA and CPA have an agreement with eBay to have all illegal sales of rodenticides and pesticides removed. We need to ensure all reports are valid.

Please note rodenticides and pesticides can be sold online as long as they meet UK law requirements and are being sold by an online shop.

eBay states the following restrictions:

- Private sellers are not allowed to sell pesticides
- Business sellers are not allowed to sell prohibited pesticides.

Examples of prohibited pesticides include;

- Pesticides that are not authorised by the authorities for sale in the UK
- Pesticides that are not sold in their original packaging with the original label
- Poisonous or toxic substances that Royal Mail (or An Post) has prohibited for posting.

You can see eBay's full Hazardous, restricted, or regulated materials policy at ebay.co.uk/pages/help/policies/hazardous-materials.html

Private sellers are any individuals who sell on eBay who are not registered as a business. Private sellers are not permitted to sell rodenticides or any other pesticide on eBay.

Business may sell pesticides as long as they meet UK legal requirements (see relevant sections above).

Before reporting illegal sales please check the requirements above and check if they are a private seller or an online business (shop).

You can check by looking at the seller information in the top right hand corner of any product page.



This seller has an online shop and therefore can sell pesticides.

However all online shops should still ensure the chemical is being sold for professional use only and should include a statement such as this:

Using Pesticides Safely

When you buy a professional use pesticide you and/or the end user must ensure that the product is legally used in line with the industries Approved Code of Practice set out by The Food and Environment Protection Act 1985 (FEPA) and Control of Pesticide Regulations 1986 (COPR).

When placing an order for a professional use pesticide you must confirm that you have read, understood and will comply with these regulations. Use plant protection products safely and always read the label and product information before use.

Please note that Royal Mail is not licensed to carry any chemicals and this should be another warning flag.

Where to report

Once you have checked all of the requirements and suspect a shop of doing something illegal or find a private seller selling pesticides on eBay, please report it to BPCA (technical@bpca.org.uk) or CPA (info@cropprotection.org.uk).

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