# **Bait Station Safety**

## **RESPONSIBLE CHEMICAL USE**

Learning how to manage and handle chemicals safely and responsibly not only ensures your personal protection, but also provides environmental protection for our precious natural resources, like water, soils, native plants and animals, marine and coastal environments.

This fact sheet is part of a series designed to help you:

- increase your awareness of correct and responsible use of all chemical types
- gain the knowledge required to effectively control weeds, pest insects and diseases without damaging, contaminating or polluting our environment
- adopt best practice to minimise chemical use and maximise personal safety, and
- play a part in improving water quality and environmental health.

#### **Make Your Own Bait Station**

Baits laid for rats, mice, slugs and snails can pose a threat to children, pets and wildlife. Having the bait exposed to the elements can also result in the loss of bait potency.

You can make your own simple but effective bait station from readily available materials and with just a few tools, and this will help reduce the risk posed by the use of baits in and around your home or property.

### **Tools required:**

- half-moon file
- hacksaw
- drill with 10mm bit
- keyhole saw

#### Materials required:

- PVC pipe cement
- 2 x 90mm metal pipe brackets
- UPVC stormwater pipe
  - 1 x 50mm x 90mm diameter
  - 1 x 200mm x 75mm diameter
  - 2 x 160mm x 90mm diameter

UPVC stormwater fittings

- 2 x 90mm Iplex caps (W10990)
- 2 x 90mm lplex threaded ends (WO5890)
- 1 x 90mm lplex (249090) 'T'

P & # HAD / ) \*\*

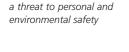
- 1 x 90-to-75mm lplex reducer (WO619075)
- 1 x 75mm lplex cap (W10575)

#### **Getting Started**

- 1) Lay out all the pieces on a table or workbench as shown in Figure 1.
- 2) Take the 90-to-75mm reducer and file down the internal shoulder so the 75mm pipe slides firmly tight through the reducer.
- 3) Take one of the 90mm caps and drill two hole as shown in Figure 2. Repeat with the other cap.
- 4) Now take one of the drilled caps and use the keyhole saw to carefully cut out a section as in Figure 3. The section removed should be as small as possible to minimise the off-target risks associated with the use of baits and because mice, snails and slugs prefer dark areas.
- 5) Repeat with the other cap. Your bait station is now ready for assembly.

#### **Assembling Your Bait Station**

- 1) Take the T-piece and one of the 160mm lengths of pipe and, working quickly, place a 15mm wide film of PVC cement on one end of the pipe and inside one end of the cross-piece of the 'T'. Then insert the treated end of the pipe into the 'T'.
- 2) Repeat for the other end of the 'T' section.
- 3) Take one of the 90mm 'threaded ends' and, using PVC cement, glue the end without the external thread onto one end of the pipe you have just glued into the T-piece.
- 4) Repeat for the other arm of the 'T'.
- 5) Now place some PVC cement inside the "vertical" of the T-piece and on one end of the 50mm length of pipe, and position the pipe inside the "vertical" opening.



Baits laid for pests can pose

CAUTION

DEFENDER

Snail & Slug

ellets

#### Other fact sheets in this series

Accuracy and Effectiveness Alternatives to Chemicals Best Time to Spray Calibrating Spray Equipment Personal Safety Understanding Product Labels #1 Understanding Product Labels #2 Using Glyphosate Weeds Near Water





Government of South Australia

Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board



- 6) Take the 90-to-75mm reducer and glue the end without the external thread over the pipe now forming the "vertical" of the 'T' section.
- 7) Next, without using glue, slide one end of the 200mm length of 75mm pipe into the 75mm end of the reducer, then place the 75mm cap on top of the end of the pipe. Your bait station is now complete.
- 8) Now take the metal brackets and position them over the "horizontal" arms of the T-shaped station as shown in Figure 4. It is very important to secure the bait station firmly so it cannot be picked up or kicked about. The brackets provide a means of screwing it to the floor or pegging it to the ground.

### **Using the Bait Station**

To use your bait station, anchor it in a location where there is pest activity, preferably close to an obvious run.

Remove the 75mm cap, slide the centre pipe to the desired height from the base of the 'T' section, and carefully pour the bait into the top of the pipe until it is about half full. The greater the distance between the base of the 'T' and the end of the vertical pipe, the larger the pile of bait inside the tunnel. Replace the cap firmly.



Figure 1



Figure 3



Figure 2



Figure 4

## Contacts

Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board

Gawler Telephone 8523 7700

Lobethal Telephone 8389 6166

Willunga Telephone 8550 3400

#### Eastwood

Telephone 8273 9100 reception@adelaide.nrm.sa.gov.au www.amlrnrm.sa.gov.au



### When using chemicals (more is not better!

If you are uncertain about any aspect of chemical use, please seek professional advice from the place of purchase or the manufacturer before proceeding.

**Disclaimer** The advice contained in this publication is intended as a source of information only. While all due care has been taken in compiling the information, we do not guarantee that this publication is without flaw and therefore disclaim any liability for any errors or omissions, loss, damage or consequences which may arise from any information given in this publication.