# Guidelines for use of **Pindone carrots**

# Who can use them?

Any property owner can purchase Pindone carrots from your local Landscape SA office as long as the property to be baited is 1000m<sup>2</sup> or larger and is within the Northern and Yorke region.

Please bring your council rates notice to identify your property at the time of purchase.

## The carrots

Pindone carrots are locally obtained, high quality diced carrots mixed with the liquid Pindone concentrate. They are supplied in labelled plastic bags and are green in colour due to the dye contained within the Pindone concentrate. They should be kept frozen until required for use.

# Before you bait

There are a few things to consider before baiting:

## Habitat

It is important that warrens are collapsed or filled (blocked) as they provide sanctuary for rabbits during extreme weather and when being chased or preyed upon. Other places of sanctuary or harbours also need to be removed. Clean up any rubbish or wood piles and trim low hanging branches on thick trees/bushes. This reduces their ability to successfully breed.

## Neighbours

Try and include neighbours whenever possible. The greater area the program can cover, the less likely re-colonisation will occur.

## Food

Using Pindone carrots work best when there is no alternative food source. So it is recommended Pindone carrots only be used over summer when no, or limited, green feed is available.

If/where possible fence off areas like vegetable gardens to reduce alternative food sources.

## Pindone the poison

Pindone is an anticoagulant, similar in its mode of action to some rat and mice baits. Pindone prevents the animal from being able to extract vitamin K1 from its diet. However, the animal will have reserves of blood clotting agents and vitamin K1 stored in its body.

For safety reasons, Pindone carrots are not designed to be a lethal single dose, so multiple doses are required for it to provide effective rabbit control.



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Initially the animal will continue to behave normally until repeat feeds are consumed, (see technique).

Do not store Pindone carrots in your food freezer where it can come into contact with food.

Keep it separate where possible or place the labelled bag inside another waterproof plastic bag. Any contamination will show as a green stain or mark.

Pindone is toxic to humans but is safe provided all of the requirements on the label and directions are followed.

Always wear the required protective equipment and wash hands and contaminated surfaces with soap and water after use.

# Directions for use

Accompanying the Pindone carrots is a safety data sheet which includes general instructions.

It is important that you read and understand these instructions as the Pindone carrots must only be used in accordance with the safety data sheet.

If you need assistance in understanding the directions and instructions please speak with a Landscape Officer.

Where any perceived inconsistences occur between this document and the directions for use or label you should comply with the directions for use and label.



# Technique

## Free feeds

- For better results train the rabbits to feed by providing one or two free feeds of un-poisoned diced carrots before introducing the Pindone carrots.
- Place the carrots in a trail, preferably in a shallow furrow, running through the area where the rabbits are currently feeding (this will be a short distance from the burrows and buck heaps see figures 1 and 2).
- Feeding is best done just prior to dusk (approximately 2 hours).
- As a guide, a light to moderate infestation of rabbits (up to 10) will require a trail density of approximately 1 kg to 2 kg of carrots per 100 metres.
- Collect and check the amount of carrots left the following morning as this will give you an indication of how many rabbits you are dealing with and the amount of bait that may be required.
- Preferably, complete this process twice before using Pindone carrots.
- Install the provided warning sign/s leading to the location about to be baited. More signs are available on request.

## **Poison feeds**

- Based on the amount of carrots consumed during the free feed/s, determine the amount of Pindone carrots required to provide three equal sized feeds. If thawing is required, the carrots may be refrozen again provided they are not left out too long.
- Before baiting, ensure that the warning signs supplied with the Pindone carrots are installed (see directions for use).
- Poison feeds should be laid on three occasions at three to five day intervals.
- Remove the required amount of Pindone carrots for each feed from the freezer so that they are just thawed when laid.
- When laying Pindone carrots wear waterproof protective gloves and place the carrots in a trail though the baiting area.
- Bait laying is best done late in the day just prior to dusk. This will avoid the heat of the day drying out the bait and reduce the risk to other non-target animals.
- If laying in a furrow, this can be made with a hoe, rake or mattock dragged through soil leaving a 2-3 cm deep furrow (see figure 2).
- Pindone washes off the bait relatively easily so avoid baiting on nights when rain is forecast and ensure sprinklers are not used.
- On the following morning check the trail and remove any uneaten carrots.
- If required adjust the next feed based on what has been consumed.

- Uneaten carrots may be disposed of by burial or burning (if permitted).
- DO NOT compost uneaten carrots or recycle plastic dispensing bag.
- Wash hands and surfaces with warm soapy water after each use.

#### Post poisoning

- Wash hands and all surfaces and tools used with soap and water.
- If any rabbit carcases are found they may be disposed of by burial.
- Keep warning signs visible for the minimum period listed in the directions for use.
- Monitor the area for any signs of rabbit activity or recolonisation over the coming months.
- You may need to repeat this process several times initially, depending on the level of infestation or just once a year. It is imperative to continue and keep positive about your program.

## Other animals

Whilst the risk of poisoning pets or native animals is low, care should still be taken. Don't distribute bait material where non-target animals are likely to consume the carrots. This includes livestock, kangaroos and other native mammals, or pets which eat vegetables. If in doubt trial feed earlier in the day and observe.

In areas where there are high populations of off-target nocturnal animals Pindone carrots can be placed inside a downpipe offcut and placed under bushes during the day and capped or removed at night (see figure 3).

If you suspect accidental poisoning has occurred, seek veterinary treatment. Vitamin K1 is an effective antidote.







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# For more information

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