

Pindone

Pindone is a first-generation anticoagulant poison. As an anticoagulant it prevents blood clotting, thereby causing death from internal bleeding. Pindone requires multiple feeds for the target animal to consume enough toxin to be fatal. It can be used by landowners to control pests on their land without the need for a licence, if deployed in bait stations. Pindone can however be deployed outside of bait stations by Certified Operators holding an *Approved Use for Pindone Certificate*, issued by the Ministry of Primary Industries, with additional constraints.



Above: Pindone pellets

Pindone baits are used to control rabbits, possums, rats and wallabies. The baits are dyed green or blue to be unattractive to birds, and other non-target species such as domestic pets. Pindone baits used to control rabbit populations have an active ingredient concentration of 0.25g/kg while pindone baits for other pests have an active ingredient concentration of 0.5g/kg.

Safe usage

Unless you hold an *Approved Use for Pindone Certificate*, Pindone is to only to be deployed in bait stations. To ensure that it is being used safely always read and follow label instructions for the product you are using. This will generally include:

- Bait must be stored in a dry area away from foodstuffs or food preparation areas
- Bait must be stored in its original container in areas inaccessible to children or pets
- Warning signs must be placed at public accessways where bait stations have been placed
- Bait stations must be out of reach of children, pets and stock (this may mean removing stock from treatment areas)

- Wear suitable protective gear when handling bait
- Do not eat, drink, smoke or vape when handling the bait
- Wash hands after working with bait

Risks

What are the risks to humans?

The risk to humans is very low because a significant amount needs to be ingested to cause illness or fatality. However, safety precautions should be taken to minimise exposure (see above).

Toxicity symptoms common to anticoagulant poisons may include:

- Bleeding gums and excessive bleeding from cuts
- Greater tendency to bruise
- Blood in urine and faeces
- Nausea and vomiting shortly after ingestion

In an emergency, contact **National Poisons Centre 0800 764766**

What are the risks to non-target animals?

If label instructions are followed there is a very low risk of primary poisoning of non-target species. Although treatment may be possible (Vitamin K), prevention is the only sure way of protecting animals and pets from poisoning. This means:

- Keeping dogs on a lead in area where toxin is being used
- Do not allow pets to scavenge dead animals
- Keeping bait within the bait stations, and not allowing it to fall on the ground
- Safely disposing of dead animals by burying

Symptoms of poisoning are similar to those observed in human. If poisoning is suspected in your dog, take it to the vet immediately.

It is important to prevent accidental poisoning by ensuring animals do not eat toxic bait or carcasses. Although the risk of secondary poisoning from eating poisoned carcasses is minimal, caution should be exercised until the carcasses have decomposed.

Dogs should be kept away from areas where bait is laid and should not be allowed to scavenge bait or rabbit carcasses. Looking for and disposing of carcasses will mitigate this risk.

If poisoning is suspected in your dog, take it to the vet immediately.

Risks to livestock

Stock (grazing animals, pigs, domestic fowl) should not have access to areas where bait stations are deployed as they could be interfered with, resulting in bait being spilt on the ground and then consumed. If you suspect that this has happened, relocate stock immediately to an untreated area. Any residue of pindone will be metabolised and eliminated from the exposed animals. Also, you need to inform the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI), Food Safety Section (phone 0800 693 721) and follow their advice.

Harvesting wild animals

It is recommended that you do not hunt animals from areas that have been treated with diphacinone for two months following the completion of baiting.

What are the risks to the environment?

Pindone is toxic to aquatic life. To avoid pindone from entering water, install bait stations away from waterbodies and flood paths.

Disposal

Surplus or spoiled bait should be disposed of as per label instructions.

This information sheet has been independently reviewed by

