

## See today, here tomorrow

Events such as PestEx are ideal opportunities for developers to assess customers' interest in their products. For regulatory or manufacturing reasons these might not be available to purchase in the UK yet, but feedback on their desirability is invaluable. Three such developments were spotted by the **Pest** team.

### Rats now – mice tomorrow



Currently only available for use with rat traps, is the TrapSensor from Alert House in Denmark. At PestEx, the developers were surprised to discover the significance of mice, so a mouse version would seem to be on its way. Its objective of remote monitoring, via app or email, is similar to the other systems now available, but what is neat is the SIM card is housed within the trap. As David Bregler explains: "It can literally be used to 'Plug & Play' as it operates without a base station or repeater. Just charge it and its active.

[www.trapsensor.com/en](http://www.trapsensor.com/en)

### Rats playing Ball

Used for real in Germany, the Ball-B-Box is an innovative product to control rodents in sewers in an ecological way – meaning without toxic bait getting into the sewage system. The plastic Ball-B-Box is lowered into the sewer. At its base is a float which simply rises and falls as water levels alter so the contents remain dry. The Ball is readily accessible by the rats who are initially encouraged to enter by the placement of what Petra Fürbeck (pictured) so delightfully calls a "super-delicious rat muffin." This can be exchanged for toxic rodenticide once the rats are used to visiting the Ball. It comes with a digital monitoring device to send data to your phone, tablet or PC.



[www.ball-b.de](http://www.ball-b.de)

### Birth control for pigeons



Already used on the Continent, this novel approach is based on the active ingredient nicarbazin. Pigeon populations are reduced by controlling their fertility through a pre-treated feed. It is claimed to be more efficient than trapping and culling, as these methods simply remove the birds, creating a vacuum that is quickly filled.

All that is required is for the pigeon to eat treated maize at the rate of

8-10 g of the active per day, for at least five days per week to totally inhibit egg hatchability. Population reductions are in the order of 30% year on year. The process is reversible – when pigeons stop eating, fertility is recovered. Nicarbazin falls under the veterinary medicines regulations and still has some way to go before UK commercialisation.

[www.pigeon.management](http://www.pigeon.management)

## Here now – LED technology

Imagine a light tube in your electronic fly killer (EFK) with a usage lifetime of up to 40,000 hours (equivalent to five years of use) – well imagine no more! The days of using fluorescent UV tubes are numbered. EFKs using light-emitting diodes (LED) are here.



Both the same output. Traditional left, LED right

Not only do LED lights cost up to 60% less to run, they emit less heat, are safer and kinder to the environment and they can also look great as the EFK machines can be of an ultra flat and smaller design. Unveiled on the Alchochem Hygiene stand, the LED lights from Philips are now available – some years in advance of initial predictions. In the interim, the bayonet fittings on the LED lights match the traditional ones so can be easily interchanged. Look out in the future for new ultra-stylish and compact EFK models.

[www.insect-trap.net](http://www.insect-trap.net)

### Fit for stewardship

A new rodenticide from Bayer, Racumin Paste, based on the first generation anticoagulant, coumatetralyl, will provide pest controllers with an effective alternative to second generation products, says Bayer. It is authorised for use around buildings and, importantly, in open areas. Because it is a first generation product it poses a lower risk for non-target animals so fits well with stewardship principles. Bayer says that in circumstances where there is any concern about what 'in and around buildings' means in terms of the distance away from a building then Racumin Paste with its open areas authorisation and better environmental profile will be a good option. With its highly palatable soft block formulation it's a ready to use product that reduces operator exposure.



[www.environmentalscience.bayer.co.uk](http://www.environmentalscience.bayer.co.uk)

### Sakarar Brodikill whole wheat

Containing 0.005% brodifacoum, Sakarar Brodikill whole wheat is, as it says in its title, rodenticide made from high quality, micronized whole wheat.

A single feed rodenticide, it is suitable for both rats and mice not only indoors but also in and around buildings.

It comes in both 20kg sacks and also in 10kg tubs, as displayed on the Killgerm stand by Louise Coldwell.



[www.killgerm.com](http://www.killgerm.com)



## For professionals

The A 50 from Swiss manufacturer Birchmeier, as demonstrated by Jorg Lembachner, certainly packs a punch!

This new two-wheeled battery operated sprayer comes with electronic pressure control, meaning the operator can set the pressure which is then maintained at a constant level. Plus, the electronic control system monitors important components such as the pump and rechargeable battery. It also has robust wheels with locking brake, 10 metre hose with three nozzle configurations, zero emissions and, says the manufacturer, is quiet and environmentally friendly to use.

[www.birchmeier.com](http://www.birchmeier.com)



## Quite a Sensation

Spotted on the Bábolna Bio stand was Protect Sensation – a unique and innovative rodenticide presentation, say the Hungarian manufacturers. It combines the effectiveness of fresh bait with the convenience of a wax block. The fresh pasta bait is the blue soft centre which is coated in a traditional red wax block. The block can be securely fixed into bait stations so preventing rodents from scattering it outside the station; something that can happen with the T-bag type presentation normally used for pasta baits. Available in the UK from 1env.

[www.babolna-bio.com/Eng](http://www.babolna-bio.com/Eng)

## Track, treat and track

Introduced to complement Talon Soft rodenticide, Syngenta has launched a new monitoring solution, Talon Track, as shown by Daniel Lightfoot and Aurelie Baillet.

Talon Track allows the identification and tracking of rodent activity. It has the same high palatability as Talon Soft, yet without any active ingredient. Once rodent activity is revealed with Talon Track, it can be replaced with Talon Soft – the rodent won't know the difference.

Once the infestation is under control, the user can, once again, revert to monitoring with Talon Track.



Email: [daniel.lightfoot@syngenta.com](mailto:daniel.lightfoot@syngenta.com)

## The first four of many



Hockley International was proud to have on its stand the first four of the eight products coming to the UK following their strategic alliance with Italian Bleu Line - B.L. Group (see page 24 of this issue). Marketing manager Peter Rosevere and Dr Cristina Porro, lead regulatory specialist, are seen here with Permex 22 E (a liquid insecticide concentrate containing permethrin and tetramethrin), Tetrapiu Multipurpose, a ready-to-use permethrin and tetramethrin formulation, Piretrox, a pyrethrin-based concentrate and Piretrox PU, a ready-to-use trigger pack version of Piretrox.

[www.hockley.co.uk/environmental-health](http://www.hockley.co.uk/environmental-health)

## First time in the UK

Having been seen at exhibitions on the Continent, officially on display for the first time in the UK was the range of Xignal digital monitoring systems for rats and mice. All the digital equipment is neatly enclosed within the waterproof trap base plate, as Hans van Oosterbos demonstrates.

[www.dimosystems.com/en](http://www.dimosystems.com/en)



## Discretion is the name of the game

Working along the lines of already established bed bug monitor products, the 1st Terminus bed bug coaster, developed in Canada, takes its appearance one stage further. By being designed to look much more like a traditional coaster to go under furniture legs, it can be discreetly used in such situations as hotel bedrooms without giving the bed bug game away to guests. No bed bugs will be seen.



Once placed, an adhesive pad within the trap immobilises any bed bugs upon contact, preventing them from moving any further, then the removable top allows for easy and frequent inspection. Available in the UK from

Sentomol.

Email: [info@sentomol.com](mailto:info@sentomol.com)