

# Aerial Pest Control



## Notification

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### 1080 Operation - Kaingaroa and Pahautea Forests

This notice advises of the pending aerial pellet operation due to be undertaken anytime from 12 December 2016, weather and operational constraints dependant.

Please ensure that this notification is passed on to all relevant parties that may be directly affected by this proposed operation. If there is likely to be any persons or crews operating within these areas during the next few weeks, please ensure that Epro Limited are aware of their location.

### Operational Area

This operation is being undertaken on behalf TBfree New Zealand Limited. The Iwitahi operational area has been a reservoir for bovine tuberculosis (TB) in the past. Possums and ferrets are the main transmitters of the livestock disease bovine TB to domestic cattle and deer. The purpose of this operation is to maintain possum numbers at very low levels in order to prevent TB infected animals migrating into adjacent areas that are TB free.

The operation involves part of Kaingaroa Forest to the east of High Level Road, and south of Dry Fly Road, across the Napier-Taupo Highway to the Taharua farmland. See attached map.

### Control Method

It is proposed to aerially apply toxic cereal pellet baits; these baits are to be applied throughout the treatment area. The previous notification had suggested two prefeed applications this has now changed with just the single application now having been completed. Exclusion zones are to be placed along the major arterial roads and any areas of known crew occupation. All toxic baits are dyed green.

### Quality Assurance

The major hazard from an aerial operation is the baits (averaging ten grams) falling from a height of approximately 100 to 150 metres and making contact with crew members on the ground. Subsequently single prefeed baits are just as hazardous as toxic ones. Generally, flight paths of the helicopters are 100 to 200 metres apart, and at a sowing rate of two kilograms per hectare it equates to one bait every six to eight square metres.

Exclusion zones are to be placed along the public roads which bound this treatment area and areas of crew occupation. However, before any vehicles, machinery or persons leave the operational area (after the toxic application) at the end of any workday or for crew relocation, workers need to ensure that no baits have collected on tyres, mudguards, vehicle trays, attachments, or the soles of work boots. All baits must be removed, by using protective gloves, if baits are handled ensure that hands are washed thoroughly afterwards. The removal of baits is of utmost importance to ensure baits remain within the operational area, thereby ensuring public safety (children and dogs).

### Further Information

Please contact Epro Limited if you require any further information. The designated forestry contact for this programme is Kane Stafford who can be contacted at [kane@epro.co.nz](mailto:kane@epro.co.nz), or by phoning 0274 833 063.

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## Toxin Fact Sheet



# Sodium Fluoroacetate (1080)

### Bait

- Bait comes in the form of carrot, cereal pellets, gel or paste.
- Distribution methods include aerial based (helicopter or fixed wing) and ground based methods.
- Ground methods include bait in bait stations, bait bags or applied on biodegradable cards, directly on the ground or placed in trees.
- Feed baits, used to familiarise animals with the bait type, are not toxic and are not dyed.
- Toxic baits are dyed green.
- There are no harmful effects from the smell of baits, which are often deliberately scented to attract possums.

### Amount of Bait to Kill

Species	Grams of Bait	Number of Baits
Possum	1 to 4	1
Dog	3 to 9	1
Man	48 to 132 175 to 435	4 to 11 (pellets at 0.15%) 7 to 20 (carrot at 0.08%)

### Poisoning Symptoms in Humans

- Nausea, vomiting, tingling and numbness in hands and face, stomach pains and anxiety.
- Muscular twitching, blurred vision and mental confusion.
- Coma, convulsions.

### First Aid Treatment

- Call a doctor immediately.
- Give water, induce vomiting until vomit fluid is clear.

### Dog Safety

- Do not take dogs into the operational area as dogs can be killed by eating 1080 baits.
- Carcasses remain toxic until completely decomposed; poison is found in the flesh and stomach content of the carcass.
- The biggest risk to dogs is from scavenging carcasses that have been poisoned by 1080.
- Dog muzzles can be purchased from Epro, veterinary clinics or stock and station agents.
- Emetic pills are available from Epro's Taupo office.

### Cautions

- Do not handle any bait.
- Do not allow children to wander unsupervised.
- Keep all domestic animals out of the operational area.
- Do not take animals for eating from within the vicinity of an operational area.
- Poison warning notices will be erected prior to the application of toxic 1080 baits.
- For further information, contact Epro Limited or the National Poison Information Centre on 0800 764 766.

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