



Code of Best Practice

Fogging and ULV treatments for insect control

Version 1: April 2023.

British Pest Control Association Code of Best Practice for Fogging and ULV treatments

A BPCA Code of Best Practice is a set of written rules which explains how people working in our industry should behave in a particular situation. It encompasses relevant legislation but is not the law in itself.

However, were a member to act outside of the norms outlined in the COBP, they may be subject to disciplinary action or be in breach of legislation. Members must abide by Codes of Best Practice

in their day-to-day work. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the Association.

Version 1: April 2023.

bPCA.org.uk/codes
Driving excellence in pest management

 01332 294 288

 @britpestcontrol

British Pest Control Association Code of Best Practice for fogging and ULV treatments

This Code of Best practice outlines the minimum criteria that all pest professionals offering fogging and ultra-low volume (ULV) treatments must meet to ensure control and provide clear customer communications.

Fogging and ULV treatments are both classed as a space or void treatment. A fogger is a machine that atomises a liquid into a variable particle less than 60 microns (typically 10 and 50 microns). A ULV machine works in a similar way, with the biggest difference being the particle size of a ULV machine is always 15 microns.

Those carrying out space treatment (ULV or fogging) need to ensure they follow the below processes for all insect infestations.

This is not a how-to guide. For information on the processes to follow when using foggers and ULV equipment, please refer to our further reading section.

Legislation

Control of Pesticide Regulations (COPR) 1986

Some insecticides still require approval under Control of Pesticide Regulations (COPR) (or Biocidal Products Regulation - see below) before they can be sold or used in the UK. Products approved under COPR can be identified by a HSE number on the label, eg HSE 4321.

COPR is a piece of legislation that makes the labels on our pesticide products a legal requirement to follow. The product label reflects the legal requirements of use.

Pest professionals must consult the product label prior to every treatment to ensure safe use regarding human health

and the environment. COPR will, eventually, be superseded by the BPR (see next paragraph)

Biocidal Products Regulation (BPR) 2012

The Biocidal Products Regulation (BPR) was introduced to harmonise regulatory standards across the EU. Products authorised under the BPR can be identified by an 'Authorisation number' on the label, eg Authorisation number UK-2019-4321.

The product label reflects the legal requirements of use. Pest professionals must consult the product label prior to every treatment to ensure safe use regarding human health and the environment.



Pest professionals should always check the product label to ensure human and environmental safety.

Health and Safety at Work Act 1974

The following resides under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974:

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (COSHH) and Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999

It is a legal and a professional requirement for all companies

using pesticides to produce COSHH assessments for each product used. COSHH assessments are produced by consulting the product label and the manufacturer safety data sheet (MSDS).

Professional considerations

1

Identification

Before an insecticide is applied, the pest management professional must be confident that a pest species is present. For more information see BPCA COBP for Precautionary Invertebrate Treatments.

2

Non-target survey

Due to the nature of space treatments it's important to look for all non-target animals and mitigate all risks to that animal.

3

Housekeeping and proofing

Identify all housekeeping and proofing issues. These will be paramount in preventing the infestation in the future.

4

Fire alarms and sensors

Speak with your site contact as you may need to have the detectors covered or have the fire alarm system monitored during the treatment.

5

Area measurements

Foggers, ULVs and aerosols will all have different parameters for usability. It's important to work out the room size to best select the appropriate technique and the amount of pesticide required.

British Pest Control Association

Code of Best Practice for fogging and ULV treatments

6

Application Rates

After you have worked out your treatment area you will need to work out your application rates for most techniques. You will find this information on the product label.

7

Exclusion zone and times

Make sure all access routes have clear signs to identify the treatment area, including the times the area should not be accessed. Exclusion times for space treatment can vary from one hour to four hours. This information will be found on the application machine or the product label.

8

Treatment report

A treatment report should be left on site with all customers. This will contain all relevant information including treatment location, exclusion times, active ingredients, percentages and the amount of product used. For more information on treatment reports see COBP on Professional Reports.

Further reading and related legislation

- Control of Pesticide Regulations 1986
- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health 2002
- EU Biocidal Product Regulations (528/2012)
- Health and Safety at Work Act 1974
- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
- Personal Protective Equipment Regulations 2002
- The Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations 2009
- BPCA CoBP - Precautionary Treatment of Invertebrates, Pesticide Waste, Vehicle Storage, Storage of Pesticides. bPCA.org.uk/codes
- EH40/2005 Workplace exposure limits.



The British Pest Control Association requires that its members meet a range of criteria including strict abidance to all of our Codes of Best Practice. You can search for our members on the BPCA website bPCA.org.uk/find

BPCA makes strenuous efforts to ensure the accuracy and current relevance of its publications, which are intended for use by technically competent persons. However, this does not remove the need for technical and managerial judgement in practical situations. Nor do they confer any immunity or exemption from relevant legal requirements, including by-laws.

If you suspect something in this document is incorrect or out of date, please report it to technical@bPCA.org.uk so we can review it.

Version 1: April 2023.