

Questionnaire for Restaurants: Assessing Understanding and Implementation of SGAR Amendments

Instructions: Please provide feedback based on your experience in British Columbia (B.C.) on behalf of Restaurants Canada. Please ensure your responses are specific to B.C. unless comparing with other provinces. If seeking opinions from the sector to support this questionnaire, please consolidate feedback into one response on behalf of the sector. When answering the following yes or no questions, please include the percent of restaurants who responded yes or no if possible. When answering questions, please do not include any personal or identifiable information.

Please complete and return the questionnaire to muhammad.sarfraz@gov.bc.ca by August 2.

Purpose and Background of the Questionnaire

In January 2023, the B.C. Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (ENV) made regulatory amendments that restricted the use of certain rodenticides (second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides or SGARs). These changes were made to mitigate significant wildlife poisoning caused by SGARs, while still allowing their use in essential service operations (such as health services, emergency response services, agriculture and food, transportation, and sanitation service locations).

We are conducting this questionnaire to gather your feedback regarding the impact of these amendments on pest management practices. Specifically, we seek insights on awareness, operational impact, and support needs from essential service partners like you. Your feedback will assist ENV in assessing the effectiveness of the amendments, improving support for rodent management practices, and ensuring sustainable pest management practices that protect BC's wildlife, particularly birds of prey, from poisoning.

The information in the questionnaire will be summarized and feedback will be anonymized by sector.

For more information on these regulatory changes, please visit our website at www.gov.bc.ca/RodentIPM.

1. Organization Information:

- Organization Name:
- Contact Person* (optional):

- Job Title* (optional):
- Contact Email* (optional):
- Contact Phone Number* (optional):

*Optional information. If provided, we may contact you with follow-up questions.

2. Awareness of New Rules

2.1. Are you aware of the new rules regarding the use of SGARs (Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides)?

- Yes
 No

2.2. Are you aware of the rodent management guidance on our website?

- Yes
 No

2.3. Are you aware that essential services, such as restaurants, can still use SGARs?

- Yes
 No
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3. Pest Control Management Practices

3.1. How do your member restaurants conduct pest control in their facilities?

- ___ % of restaurants where staff perform pest control (conducted internally)
___ % restaurants where a pest control operator (PCO) is hired (contracted externally)
___ % restaurants that do both (external and internal)

3.2. In scenarios where restaurants conduct some elements of pest control internally and also hire a PCO, what services do PCOs perform and what tasks are managed internally?

PCO services: _____

Staff tasks: _____

4. Rodent Population Observations

4.1. Have you noticed an increase in rodent populations (in or around your facilities) recently?

- Yes
- No

4.2. If yes, is the increase specific to:

- Indoor mice
- Outdoor rats
- Other (please specify): _____

4.3. How does your current rodent pressure compare to before the temporary ban in 2021/amendments in January 2023?

- Much higher
- Slightly higher
- About the same
- Slightly lower
- Much lower

4.4. Based on your sector's experiences have you identified any geographic hotspots within B.C. where rodent populations have increased?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please specify the areas: _____

4.5. Based on your sector's experiences have you identified any specific areas where there has been an unusual volume of rodent complaints?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please specify the areas: _____

5. Challenges and Support Needs

5.1. Have the amendments created any specific challenges when managing rodents in restaurants?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please describe the challenges: _____

5.2. In what areas do you feel you need more support or information? (please select all that apply)

- Integrated Pest Management (IPM) implementation strategies
- Rodent Prevention checklist
- Understanding of the new rules
- Other (please specify): _____

5.3. How can ENV best support information sharing and adoption of the new rules?

- Update guidance materials
- Develop new guidance materials
- Other (please specify): _____

5.4 Please list any suggestions for new guidance materials or updates to existing guidance that would help in adoption and understanding of the new rules:

5.5 Would you like to share any other concerns about rodent populations or rodent management that will assist ENV in better supporting the sector in adapting to the recent rodenticide rules? _____

Thank you for your participation! Your feedback is crucial in helping us support the restaurant industry effectively during the implementation of the new rules.