

## 2015 Presidential Migratory Bird Federal Stewardship Award Nomination

### U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Pesticide Programs: Restrictions and Cancellations of Rodenticide Products

EPA reached agreement with Reckitt Benckiser, the manufacturer, to cancel 12 d-CON rat and mouse poison products. Eight of these products contain second generation anticoagulants (brodifacoum, difethialone, bromadiolone, or difenacoum); pesticides that pose unacceptable risks to non-target wildlife. As a result of this action, as of January 1, 2015, all registered consumer use rat and mouse poison products meet current EPA safety standards. This action will prevent risks to migratory birds and other non-target wildlife.



Photo Credit: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

EPA made a determination that 12 products produced by the manufacturer did not comply with current safety standards and issued a Notice of Intent to Cancel these products in February 2013. The manufacturer exercised their right to contest the cancellation through an administrative hearing process. During this process, the manufacturers decided to voluntarily cancel the 12 d-CON products and no longer pursue registration of two other d-CON products. In choosing to issue a Notice of Intent to Cancel these products, EPA chose to use its strongest powers under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to protect birds and wildlife.

This action promotes migratory bird conservation by reducing non-target exposures of migratory birds to rodenticides, in particular raptors, to second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides nationwide. This action strengthens restrictions on how rodenticide products can be packaged, eliminates products that can be spread outdoors loosely by requiring bait stations for all outdoor, above-ground placements, and limits the use of second-generation rodenticides to trained professionals, only. In moving to cancel products that did not comply with EPA's current standards of protection, EPA rid the market of 12 rodenticide products, eight of which contained second-generation rodenticides. Removing the use of second-generation rodenticide products from consumers also reduces the overall amount of second-generation anticoagulants used; thus, reducing the overall risk to non-target animals, including migratory birds.

EPA anticipates that this action will reduce exposure of predatory birds to second-generation rodenticides. Many migratory species will benefit including: Red-tailed Hawks, Peregrine Falcons, Bald Eagles, Cooper's Hawks, Sharp-shinned Hawks, American Kestrels, Red-shouldered Hawks, Barred Owls. Many of these species live and reproduce in urban settings

where residential uses of the second-generation rodenticides have now been curbed. Because this action affects the sale and distribution of second-generation rodenticide products nationwide, EPA believes raptors, scavengers, and carnivorous migratory birds all over the U.S. will benefit from this action.