

## **Bait containing 'C+C' for control of possums**

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The efficacy of 'C+C' bait on caged possums was high (100% mortality). During a 2-month period in paired field trials 'C+C' cereal bait killed 93.2% of possums and brodifacoum bait 76.0% of possums. A longer period of about 2.5 months baiting is recommended to kill both resident and immigrant possums during control. Highly palatable multi-species baits (paste, cereal, extruded) containing 'C+C' have recently been evaluated on possums, rats and mice. To implement product registrations research has assessed the risks to non-target species by primary and secondary poisoning. All chickens and ducks (as surrogate bird species) survived after being fed ad libitum on 'C+C' bait during a 7-day period. Sheep (a ruminant) survived after being fed 'C+C' bait for 5 days. The overall risk to invertebrates is very low with a negligible 'hazard' to earthworms, weta, and bees. Unlike brodifacoum, 'C+C' does not bio-accumulate in tissues because a stop-feed effect once a pest ingests a lethal dose attenuates feeding on bait. Consequently, residues in carcasses are generally low. These low residues result in a low risk of secondary poisoning of non-target species feeding on small mammalian pests. Further research on chemistry and non-target risk will be completed before registration dossiers are submitted to regulatory authorities during 2009.