



Hunter Bird Observers Club

Affiliated with BirdLife Australia

Hunter Bird Observers Club Inc
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ABN 62 415 889 446

Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority,
Level 1, 11 Faulding Street,
Symonston, ACT 2609
enquiries@apvma.gov.au

Re: use of bromadiolone on farms

Hunter Bird Observers Club Inc. (HBOC) based in Newcastle NSW urges that you, as the regulator of pesticides and veterinary medicines up until the point of retail sale, do not authorise the use of "second generation" bromadiolone as a way of addressing the current mouse plague in eastern Australia. According to our information, the NSW government has sought approval from the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) for farmers to use bromadiolone to control mice on their properties.

Scientists and ecologists have demonstrated through careful research that widespread use of this chemical will also kill not-targeted animals including pets, livestock and native wildlife. Bird species such as birds of prey (raptors and owls) are in particular danger as rodents such as mice form a significant component of their diet. Other species, such as grain-eating parrots, will also be affected. An unprecedented number of these species are already on the threatened species list in NSW - seven species of raptor, five species of owl and nine species of grain/seed-eating parrots.

It is unacceptable that their survival will be placed in greater jeopardy through the use of bromadiolone, particularly when there are alternatives available. We refer you to the BirdLife Australia website for details <https://birdlife.org.au/rodent-control>

We look forward to a reply to this letter.

Thank you,

Ann Lindsey – conservation co-ordinator of HBOC
6th June, 2021

About Hunter Bird Observers Club

Hunter Bird Observers Club was established in 1976 and currently has a membership over 400. Although the Club is based in Newcastle NSW membership includes members from other areas in NSW and from interstate. We have a very good standing in the scientific and conservation communities through our years of dedicated data-collection, research, education and advocacy work.

Aims of HBOC:

- to encourage and further the study and conservation of Australian birds and their habitat
- and
- to encourage bird observing as a leisure-time activity.