**New Rodenticide Regulation in California**

Effective July 1, 2014, the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR) designated that all second generation anticoagulant rodenticide (SGAR) products will be a restricted use material in California. Meaning that only certified commercial or private applicators may purchase and/or apply these SGAR’s and must obtain a restricted materials permit from the county agricultural commissioner before purchase and/or use.

**What is a SGAR?**

Second generation agents are far more toxic than first generation. They are generally lethal after a single ingestion of bait and are also effective against strains of rodents that became resistant to first generation anticoagulants; thus, the second generation anticoagulants are sometimes referred to as "superwarfarins". Examples of SGAR’s are Brodifacoum, Bromadiolone, Difenacoum, and Difethialone.

**What is ECOLA’s position?**

Since 2012 ECOLA has been using Terad3 rodenticide which contains Vitamin D3, which is not a SGAR. Vitamin D3 is the only rodenticide active ingredient on the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Organic Program (NOP) list. Vitamin D3 is a naturally occurring compound produced by most mammals after exposure to sunlight. Vitamin D3 is also found naturally in fish, eggs, and cod liver oil. As with so many things in life, a little may be good, but too much is bad. This is the case with Vitamin D3. A little provides health benefits, but excessive amounts can lead to an overdose and cause severe health problems or death.

**What about secondary poisoning?**

This is one of the questions we hear from our customers regularly regarding rodenticide baiting. Customers with pets and customers concerned about other wildlife such as scavenger birds want to know if the rodenticide has potential for secondary poisoning. Laboratory and field data suggests that vitaminD3 baits like Terad3 have not shown any potential for secondary poisoning. As a result, dead or dying rodents represent a substantially reduced risk to pets and other wildlife.