

Rodenticide Committee Update

The Rodenticide Committee met today, 8/26/2025, in Portland Maine. Approximately 40 people were in attendance.

We briefly discussed the rodenticide re-registration, we now believe we'll hear more by Spring 2026.

Rodenticides in the news- a short discussion of issues coming out of California, Whole Foods closure do to rodents, and hunters finding blue meat in wild hogs lead to a conversation about inaccurate reporting and the possibility of making comments back or asking news sources to make corrections. State regulators cannot readily add input, but perhaps PSEPs, Extension, and/or Land Grant Universities could.

California's Poison Free Wildlife Act bans all anticoagulant rodenticides with very limited exemptions. Follow up discussion on what other states are seeing, including a bill in Rhode Island that passed the senate but did not make it to a vote in the house, 1 year SGAR ban in SC, RUP status in Connecticut, and several bans on city property in Massachusetts. MA was also tasked with a scientific review of literature on the effects of anticoagulants and the Phase II draft study is available for comment.

Public Health considerations, 63 diseases spread by rodents. Questioned if Hanta virus, one of the few reportable diseases, could be used as a surrogate to indicate other unreported diseases. A comment was made that proper studies are not being used. Only dead animals are tested, with no tests on live/healthy animals, data is skewed. There are new studies being evaluated, such as hair, scat, etc. A comment was made relating how ag imports look at the other side of risk, versus risk of use of pesticides. The risks of not using pesticides at the point of importing ag commodities, could result in invasive species, new disease pressures, etc., so why can't industry look at (talk about) the risk of not using rodenticides.

Other topics discussed:

- ESA potential changes based on new administration
- Wildlife showing in areas not previously seen, including increases in wildlife encounters
- PFAS containing pesticides being banned.