ContraPest®

Brand name: ContraPest®
Common name: 4-Vinylcyclohexene diepoxide (VCD)/Triptolide
Producer: SenesTech, Inc., 23460 N. 19th Ave., Suite 110, Phoenix, AZ 85027

Regulatory Status: ContraPest is federally registered for use by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and is also registered for use in all 50 states as well as the District of Columbia. ContraPest is registered as general use in 47 states but is registered as a Restricted Use Product (RUP) in NY, CT and CA.

General Description
ContraPest® is a liquid rat fertility control product designed to reduce fertility in Norway and roof rats. Using a proprietary bait delivery method, ContraPest is dispensed in a highly palatable liquid formulation that promotes sustained consumption by rat communities.

The deployment of ContraPest is simple and straightforward.

Bait stations are placed in the foraging locations using SenesTech Control bait to confirm consumption. Once consumption is confirmed, Control is replaced with ContraPest®, which rats repeatedly consume due to its fatty, sweet formulation, immediately reducing their fertility. Rat populations decrease as rats consume ContraPest, minimizing the rebound effect. As populations continue to decrease, fewer bait stations are needed.

When consumed, ContraPest affects both males and female rats. ContraPest suppresses male fertility by preventing sperm maturation and impairing the movement of sperm and suppresses female fertility by decreasing the number of eggs that can be ovulated.

Representing a proactive, rather than reactive approach, ContraPest targets and treats an entire rat population, not just a single rat. Studies have shown no behavioral changes or illness in rats, reducing risk of predation and secondary exposure. Low concentrations of and short half-life of the active ingredients also reduces risk to non-target species.

The average duration of infertility ranges from 77 to over 180 days (2 to 6 months) but averages 119 days. Both in the lab and in the field, ContraPest consumption has documented effects on fertility reduction and therefore in reducing rat populations.

Authorizations
ContraPest is federally registered with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the registrant is SenesTech, a U.S.-based biotechnology company.

Learn More
For information about ContraPest and its use in managing Norway and roof rat populations, visit SenesTech’s website at https://senestech.com/

The Challenge: Rat Reproduction
Under ideal conditions, two mating rats can be responsible for 15,000 descendants within one year, making it difficult to maintain control of rat infestations.

Population growth like this can lead to continued infrastructure damage and product loss.