

# IMPORTANT!

## ALL AVICIDE USERS

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The Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDOA) has been receiving ever increasing concerns from the public and press about the use of the pigeon control products. These concerns have led to complaints about its side effects which include erratic behavior and/or death of pigeons and the effects on non-target birds by careless and incomplete applications. Over the last several months, the NDOA Las Vegas office staff has investigated numerous complaints involving avicides. The investigations have resulted in documented cases of Avitrol® Whole Corn label violations, such as not picking up dead and dying birds, the killing of non-target bird species, and the exposure of the pesticide to the public. The NDOA will be stepping up the enforcement of pest control companies / firms who mis-use avicides. **Penalties for such mis-use will be considered a “serious violations” and enforced as such resulting in the assessment of higher fines to pest control companies.**

The NDOA recognizes the importance that avicides play in an integrated approach to pigeon control. To ensure the proper use of avicides, the NDOA is considering several options. Some of the options being considered include:

- ✓ the voluntary (and possibly mandatory) notification to the NDOA prior to an avicide application.
- ✓ revised precise daily recordkeeping requirements to verify bird populations, visual observations to ensure non-target birds are not consuming the prebait, amount of pre-bait consumed by target birds.
- ✓ mandatory observation that non-target birds are not feeding on the bait and to ensure the dead and dying pigeons are picked up immediately.
- ✓ mandatory daily pick-up of un-eaten bait.
- ✓ mandatory pre-bait of each treatment and ensure that there is no lapse between the pre-baiting and baiting.
- ✓ the development of a new “avicide” category which would require pest control licensees who use avicides, to take an avicide exam to become licensed in a new avicide category. All principals and operators using avicides would have to be licensed in the new category.

THE NDOA IS LOOKING FOR SUGGESTIONS AND PARTICIPATION FROM INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE IDEAS OR COMMENTS ABOUT WAYS TO BETTER ENSURE THE PROPER USE OF AVICIDES. THE NDOA WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS ON THIS ISSUE. COMMENTS CAN BE PLACED, OR ATTACHED, TO THE BACK OF THIS LETTER. PLEASE RETURN COMMENTS BY DECEMBER 31, 2007.

Thanks for your attention,

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Charles Moses, ES IV

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