

Pindone Information Sheet

Pindone is used to control rabbits. It has been used in New Zealand since the 1940s, and is sold in a number of different forms.

Pindone is a slow acting anticoagulant poison, developed as a pesticide in the early 1940s. It is particularly effective for rabbit control in New Zealand. It is also used to control rodents, possums and wallabies, however we use a different concentration to control these species.

Pindone for rabbits

Pindone is very effective on rabbits. Rabbits will damage gardens, pasture, crops, trees - even a few rabbits can have a substantial impact. Pindone rabbit bait is dyed green or blue and comes in two forms:

- Diced carrot coated with Pindone solution
- Cereal-based pellets

Waitaki District Council will be using diced carrot, dyed green or blue.

Birds and Pindone

The carrot bait is dyed green or blue to discourage birds from eating it. Pindone is a mammalian toxin and birds have far greater resistance to the toxin than rabbits. The bait should not be laid where poultry or garden birds are fed. If birds are used to feeding in these areas, this could cause secondary poisoning if they eat bait.

As shown in the table below, the number of pindone baits needed to have negative effects on dogs (26.5 baits), sheep (564 baits), cattle (5,647 baits) and adults (4,412 baits) and children (706 baits) is far above that required for rabbits (0.9 baits). These are also linked to weight, so are approximations – range will vary.

Toxicity to humans and other animals

	Pindone LD 50* (mg/kg)	Animal weight (kg)	No. of Pindone baits to kill (based on 7-day daily dose)
Rabbit	0.52	1.5	0.9
Dog	2.5	9	26.5
Sheep	12	40	564
Cattle	12	400	5,647
Human - child	50	12	706
Human - adult	50	75	4,412

*LD50: amount of toxic bait required to kill 50% of a population.