

## **Pest Control in Licensed (Food) Premises**

### **Common Pest in Licensed (Food) Premises**

Rodent, cockroach and fly are the most common pests that may infest licensed food premises. They will not only pose food safety problem, but also transmit diseases to human.

These pests are attracted by food or shelters provided by licensed premises. The attractions can be caused by:

- a improper storage of food;
- b improper disposal of food remnants;
- c presence of food debris;
- d accumulation of articles including disused ones;
- e poor cleanliness of places and floors;
- f other unhygienic conditions;
- g structural defects etc.

At the same time, if the premises are not pest-proofed, they can be easily invaded by various pests.

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To avoid pest infestation in premises, the best way is to improve environmental conditions, which includes maintaining a high sanitation standard and fixing any structural defects. Proofing measures should also be adopted to block entrance of pests.

Regular pest surveys should be conducted for early detection of pest and to apprehend pest situations at the premises. Whenever pests are detected, control actions should be taken promptly to rectify the situations.

Private pest control services providers can be appointed to carry out pest surveys and subsequent pest control work. The appointed private pest control services providers should be requested to:

- carry out routine pest surveys at regular intervals;
- give report on the survey results, which should include the types of pests causing infestation, the degree of infestation and the source of infestation;
- provide information on the designed control program, which should include the type of control methods that will be used as well as the places in which control work will be performed;
- use locally registered pesticide with active ingredients of lower toxicity and effectiveness at low doses when pesticide application is necessary;
- provide information on the pesticides that will be used, including brand name,

active ingredients, target species, method of application as well as the application dosage;

- provide details of the procedures of their work;
- provide information on precautionary and safety measures against pest disinfestations work carried out as well as post-treatment work;
- conduct pest control work after business hours;
- perform follow-up surveys to evaluate the control programs;
- give advice on the prevention and proofing measures with regard to specific pest problems;
- furnish a detailed report on the above and the work they have done.

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