

Handling precautions

Alphachloralose paste must be handled with care. Protective clothing necessary comprises of overalls and gloves. Contaminated clothing must be washed separately to all other clothing. Smoking or eating should not be carried out during Alphachloralose application.

Pre-feeding

To obtain maximum effectiveness, all target birds should be pre-fed with non-toxic bait such as bread. Feed bait may be broadcast on the ground in areas adjacent to areas subjected to damage. Apply small quantities of bait in a number of locations, rather than large amounts in a few locations. Alternatively, and if circumstances dictate, feed trays should be designed to contain bait and avoid spillage. Feed bait should be placed on feed trays as close as possible to roosting and feeding areas.

Pre-feeding should continue for up to 7 days although a period of 3-4 days is usually adequate. Bait quantities and bird numbers feeding must be monitored to ensure that the daily appetite of the birds is satisfied. Sufficient bait must be made available to allow access and opportunity by all birds. Pre-feeding should be done by the same person each morning, preferably before dawn so as not to unduly disrupt the bird's natural feeding habits. Birds are hungriest at this time.

Applications of Alphachloralose Bait

Ensure that all traces of pre-feed bait have been removed.

Application of Alphachloralose bait can immediately follow the previous days pre-feeding.

Again, Alphachloralose bait should be applied at dawn when the birds are hungriest.

The toxic bait should be applied in an identical manner as the pre-feed bait, ie on bread made into a sandwich.

Monitor the baited areas from concealed positions and take care to ensure that birds are not frightened by human activity, domestic animals, vehicles or machinery etc.

Birds will become immobilised as quickly as 5 minutes after feeding commences although some slow feeders may take up to 15 minutes.

Once target population has been effectively anaesthetised, birds can be collected and destroyed.

Collection and disposal

Birds should be destroyed quickly and in a humane way such as breaking their necks. Carcasses can be disposed of by burying to a minimum depth of 600mm at a number of sites, depending on the number of birds. Alternatively, birds can be collected and disposed of in a pit constructed for the purpose. The pit should also be no less than 600mm deep.

Take care with disposal to ensure that no underground aquifer or adjacent watercourse is contaminated. Further advice should be obtained from local regional council.

Decontamination of area

Once all birds have been destroyed or left to revive, surplus bait must be collected. Surplus Alphachloralose bait must be buried to a depth of no less than 600mm.

On-going control

This process may be repeated at intervals of no less than two weeks. An interval of this length will allow bird populations to regroup, and resume normal population behaviour to allow for effective control.

First Aid

If swallowed, induce vomiting and call a doctor. If skin contamination occurs, wash affected area thoroughly with warm soapy water.

