

# Your rat tails needed now for resistance testing

**A resistance mapping survey is underway which aims to provide preliminary data on the distribution of anticoagulant resistance in the Norway rat.**

This survey is funded entirely by the pest control industry (BASF, Bayer, Bell, Killgerm, PelGar, Syngenta and also BPCA and NPTA) but is managed by an independent scientific committee to ensure that the results are seen to be both rigorous and independent.

Between 600 to 1,000 tail tips are required from seven areas across mainland Britain. The focus of the research is on a series of hot spots where it is known, or suspected, that the resistant rats predominate.

To establish the extent of the anticoagulant resistance on behalf of the pest control industry, **the organisers require your help, now.**

Shown below are the seven areas where the tips of rat's tails are sought. The study is using spatial mapping by sampling along transects that cross resistance foci.

## How you do it

Tail tips (3 - 5 cm) must not be from poisoned rats – they need to be collected from rats killed by trapping, shooting or dogs. Tails can be stored in a freezer until dispatched in the supplied vial containing a preservative (one tail tip per vial). With each vial, certain data is required: the name of the collector, the date and place collected (a post code or GPS/Ordnance Survey map co-ordinate).

If you think you can help, email [resistancesurvey@hud.ac.uk](mailto:resistancesurvey@hud.ac.uk) or text **07852 975871** before collecting any tail tips. You will then be sent, **free of any charge**, an individually coded plastic vial contain 80% ethanol, along with instructions on how to collect your tails and where to send them once collected.

## Tail sample locations

Tails can be collected along transects from the locations shown and areas in between:

**Area 1 Avon** – [http://www.pestmagazine.co.uk/\\_attachments/Resources/350\\_S4.pdf](http://www.pestmagazine.co.uk/_attachments/Resources/350_S4.pdf)

West to east: Bristol – Chipping Sodbury – Chippenham – Swindon – Wantage

North to south: Worcester – Tewksbury – Cheltenham – Cirencester – Devizes - Salisbury

**Area 2 Anglia** - [http://www.pestmagazine.co.uk/\\_attachments/Resources/349\\_S4.pdf](http://www.pestmagazine.co.uk/_attachments/Resources/349_S4.pdf)

West to east: Kings Lynn – Dereham – Norwich – Great Yarmouth

North to south: Cromer – Diss – Ipswich

**Area 3 Kent/South East England** -

[http://www.pestmagazine.co.uk/\\_attachments/Resources/352\\_S4.pdf](http://www.pestmagazine.co.uk/_attachments/Resources/352_S4.pdf)

West to east: Crawley – East Grinstead – Tunbridge Wells – Ashford – Dover

North to south: Gravesend – Chatham – Maidstone – Cranbrook – Hawkhurst – Hastings

**Area 4 West Midlands/Wales** -

[http://www.pestmagazine.co.uk/\\_attachments/Resources/355\\_S4.pdf](http://www.pestmagazine.co.uk/_attachments/Resources/355_S4.pdf)

West to east: Dolgellau – Oswestry – Market Drayton – Stafford

North to south: Chester – Whitechurch – Telford – Bridgenorth – Kidderminster – Great Malvern

**Area 5 Yorks/Lincs** - [http://www.pestmagazine.co.uk/\\_attachments/Resources/353\\_S4.pdf](http://www.pestmagazine.co.uk/_attachments/Resources/353_S4.pdf)

West to east: Sheffield – Rotherham – Worksop – Retford – Horncastle – Skegness

North to south: Hull – Brigg – Market Rasen – Lincoln – Grantham

**Area 6 Central England** - [http://www.pestmagazine.co.uk/\\_attachments/Resources/351\\_S4.pdf](http://www.pestmagazine.co.uk/_attachments/Resources/351_S4.pdf)

West to east: Andover – Basingstoke – Farnborough – Woking

North to south: Oxford – Didcot – Newbury – Whitchurch – Winchester – Eastleigh

**Area 7 South West Scotland**[http://www.pestmagazine.co.uk/\\_attachments/Resources/354\\_S4.pdf](http://www.pestmagazine.co.uk/_attachments/Resources/354_S4.pdf)

West to east: Stranraer – Newton Stewart – Castle Douglas – Dumfries – Gretna

North to south – none for this area