



RESPONSIBLE CHEMICAL USE



Learning how to manage and handle chemicals safely and responsibly not only ensures your personal protection, but also provides environmental protection for our precious natural resources, like water, soils, native plants and animals, marine and coastal environments.



Baits laid for pests can pose a threat to personal and environmental safety

This fact sheet is part of a series designed to help you:

- increase your awareness of correct and responsible use of all chemical types
- gain the knowledge required to effectively control weeds, pest insects and diseases without damaging, contaminating or polluting our environment
- adopt best practice to minimise chemical use and maximise personal safety, and
- play a part in improving water quality and environmental health.

Make Your Own Bait Station

Baits laid for rats, mice, slugs and snails can pose a threat to children, pets and wildlife. Having the bait exposed to the elements can also result in the loss of bait potency.

You can make your own simple but effective bait station from readily available materials and with just a few tools, and this will help reduce the risk posed by the use of baits in and around your home or property.

Tools required:

- half-moon file
- hacksaw
- drill with 10mm bit
- keyhole saw

Materials required:

- PVC pipe cement
- 2 x 90mm metal pipe brackets
- UPVC stormwater pipe
 - 1 x 50mm x 90mm diameter
 - 1 x 200mm x 75mm diameter
 - 2 x 160mm x 90mm diameter

- UPVC stormwater fittings
 - 2 x 90mm Iplex caps (W10990)
 - 2 x 90mm Iplex threaded ends (WO5890)
 - 1 x 90mm Iplex (249090) 'T'
 - 1 x 90-to-75mm Iplex reducer (WO619075)
 - 1 x 75mm Iplex cap (W10575)

Getting Started

- 1) Lay out all the pieces on a table or workbench as shown in **Figure 1**.
- 2) Take the 90-to-75mm reducer and file down the internal shoulder so the 75mm pipe slides firmly tight through the reducer.
- 3) Take one of the 90mm caps and drill two holes as shown in **Figure 2**. Repeat with the other cap.
- 4) Now take one of the drilled caps and use the keyhole saw to carefully cut out a section as in **Figure 3**. The section removed should be as small as possible to minimise the off-target risks associated with the use of baits and because mice, snails and slugs prefer dark areas.
- 5) Repeat with the other cap. Your bait station is now ready for assembly.

Assembling Your Bait Station

- 1) Take the T-piece and one of the 160mm lengths of pipe and, working quickly, place a 15mm wide film of PVC cement on one end of the pipe and inside one end of the cross-piece of the 'T'. Then insert the treated end of the pipe into the 'T'.
- 2) Repeat for the other end of the 'T' section.
- 3) Take one of the 90mm 'threaded ends' and, using PVC cement, glue the end without the external thread onto one end of the pipe you have just glued into the T-piece.
- 4) Repeat for the other arm of the 'T'.
- 5) Now place some PVC cement inside the "vertical" of the T-piece and on one end of the 50mm length of pipe, and position the pipe inside the "vertical" opening.

Other fact sheets in this series

Accuracy and Effectiveness
Alternatives to Chemicals
Best Time to Spray
Calibrating Spray Equipment
Personal Safety
Understanding Product Labels #1
Understanding Product Labels #2
Using Glyphosate
Weeds Near Water





- 6) Take the 90-to-75mm reducer and glue the end without the external thread over the pipe now forming the "vertical" of the 'T' section.
- 7) Next, without using glue, slide one end of the 200mm length of 75mm pipe into the 75mm end of the reducer, then place the 75mm cap on top of the end of the pipe. Your bait station is now complete.
- 8) Now take the metal brackets and position them over the "horizontal" arms of the T-shaped station as shown in **Figure 4**. It is very important to secure the bait station firmly so it cannot be picked up or kicked about. The brackets provide a means of screwing it to the floor or pegging it to the ground.

Using the Bait Station

To use your bait station, anchor it in a location where there is pest activity, preferably close to an obvious run.

Remove the 75mm cap, slide the centre pipe to the desired height from the base of the 'T' section, and carefully pour the bait into the top of the pipe until it is about half full. The greater the distance between the base of the 'T' and the end of the vertical pipe, the larger the pile of bait inside the tunnel. Replace the cap firmly.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4

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When using chemicals more is not better!

If you are uncertain about any aspect of chemical use, please seek professional advice from the place of purchase or the manufacturer before proceeding.

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