CONTROL OF INSECTS, RODENTS, AND OTHER PETS | FOOD CODE FACT SHEET #11

Insects, rodents, and other pests must be controlled to minimize their presence within food establishments. The presence of insects, rodents, and other pests must be controlled as follows:

- By routinely inspecting incoming shipments of food and supplies.
- By routinely inspecting the premises for evidence of pests.
- By eliminating harborage conditions.
- By using methods, such as trapping devices or extermination as follows:

    a. Devices used to electrocute flying insects must be designed to have escape restraints.
    b. Devices used to execute flying insects, impel insects or insect fragments, or trap insects by adherence, must be installed as follows:
        i. Devices may not be located over a food preparation area.
        ii. Dead insects and insect fragments may not be impelled onto or fall on exposed food, clean equipment, utensils, linens, and unwrapped single-service and single-use articles.
    c. Rodent bait must be contained in a covered, tamper-resistant station.
    d. Pesticide tracking powder may not be used in a food establishment.
    e. A general-use pesticide must be applied according to the manufacturer's instructions.
    f. A restricted-use pesticide must be applied by a certified applicator.
    g. Automatic insecticide dispensers may not be located within a 12-foot radius of open food or food-contact surfaces and may not be located above food, clean equipment and utensils, food contact surfaces, and single-use and single-service articles.

- Dead or trapped birds, insects, rodents, and other pests must be removed from control devices and the premises at a frequency that prevents their accumulation, decomposition, and the attraction of pests.
- Openings to the food establishment or the outdoors must be protected against the entry of insects and rodents as follows:

    a. By filling or closing holes and other gaps along floors, walls, and ceilings.
    b. By using closed, tight-fitting windows.
    c. By using solid self-closing, tight-fitting doors.

- If windows or doors are kept open for ventilation or other purposes, the openings must be protected against the entry of insects and rodents by the use of 16 mesh to 25.4-milimeter (16 mesh to 1-inch) screens, properly designed and installed air curtains, or other effective means.