



# Sodium Monofluoroacetate I080 POISON FACTSHEET

**ERMA (now the Environmental Protection Authority - EPA) 2007 DOCUMENTS CONTAIN CLEAR SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE THAT I080...**

**Is toxic to all forms of life:** microbes, algae, terrestrial plants, invertebrates, fish, birds, mammals. Native birds killed include fernbirds, kea, kaka, morepork, tomtits and robins.

**Persists** in carcasses, baits, tree canopies, bones, dry places, cold places, cool water, water lacking aquatic plants, acidic soils, other soils, and possibly anywhere at low concentrations.

**Reaches highly toxic levels** after uptake e.g. in fish, insects & koura.

**Causes “prey switching”** e.g. stoats are known to switch to eating birds, after aerial I080 poison temporarily reduces populations of their preferred food, rats.

**Causes large increases in rat populations** starting from nearly zero to plagues within 2 years, mouse plagues, and rapid build-up of possum numbers, as well as increases in other invasive pests (e.g. mynas and rosellas).

**Has not been shown to be of any benefit to biodiversity** (reviewed by scientists Whiting & O’Keefe, 2007). Causes birth defects, damage to reproductive organs, reduced fertility, and damage to other organs including heart and brain, in mammals and other animals.

**Contaminates factory and field workers** and is particularly risky to human health because it is so toxic, hard to detect, has a long latency period before symptoms occur, and has no antidote.

**Spreads as dust** throughout and beyond aerial application zones, and up food chains, rapidly in water.

**Creates genetically-resistant strains of pests** when it is applied repeatedly.

**Causes prolonged animal suffering**, with sickness, death and permanent debility.

**Is aurally spread to control bovine Tb**, but this claim is built on dubious assumptions and is of questionable worth. The Tb Free plan should be urgently, independently reviewed (the 2015 “review” lacks independence).

**Is of more danger to dogs now since the ERMA decision:** the poison is more widespread, signs are smaller and must be removed (despite an undefined risk from toxic carcasses) and contractors no longer have to give 3 days’ warning.

**Has harmful breakdown products** including (highly toxic) fluorocitrate.

**Was approved without sufficient validation**, use of expert opinion, or objectivity, as required by law.

**Environmental Risk Management Authority Reassessment of I080, 2007**

**Visit [www.I080science.co.nz](http://www.I080science.co.nz) to view these documents**



Images: Clyde Graf

# Samples of quotes from the ERMA (EPA) Decision Documents



**Unintended consequences** - “the anticipated benefits of possum and rodent control may result in unforeseen impacts on highly valued species through prey switching”; “Rat populations generally recovered within 3-5 months of poisoning”; “An increase in ship rat numbers .. in 2000-1 [after 4 years of poisoning began in 1997] resulted in ship rat predation of 11 out of 16 [kereru] nests”; “Continued presence of predators (rats, mice, cats, stoats) [on Rangitoto Island after 1080 operation].. less than expected bird population recoveries”; “Scientists have not examined the net ecological outcomes [as] key conservation legislation demands”; “Rabbit populations in SW Australia appear to be developing resistance to 1080”

**Bird mortality** - “Morepork .. dead birds found after 1080 operations”; “[Tomtit] .. dead birds found wherever aerial 1080 operations occur .. population declines after 1080 carrot operations”; “Kereru .. on-going predation of kereru nests [after 1080 operation, 2000]”; “Rifleman .. dead birds found containing 1080 residues”; “Whitehead .. dead birds found; “Silvereyes, fantails and grey warblers have been found dead after 1080 carrot operations” “Kereru .. dead birds found after 1080 operations”; “Robin .. population mortality 55% in one sample”

**Uncertainties and gaps in research** - “The Agency has made no assessment of risks to frogs”; “No data are available on the toxicity of 1080 to native NZ reptiles (geckoes, skinks and tuatara)”; “The Agency has made no quantitative assessment of risks to aquatic biota (life)”; “Limited information is available on dust drift”; “Dust drift can occur over a considerable distance off-site (at least 1 km)”; “No studies have been conducted using standard international guidelines to assess the route and rate of degradation of 1080 in soil. Likewise, no robust studies on the absorption/leaching of 1080 were available to the Agency”; “the breakdown of 1080 in the aquatic environment would be better described as dilution”; “If a major spill into a waterway occurred, the spread may be uncontrollable”; “There may be some uncertainty associated with the [drinking water testing] results, when sample storage information is taken into account”; “The likelihood of drinking water residues is relatively high”; “It is clear that 1080 residues remain in the guts of dead animals for prolonged periods”

**Human health risks** - “the Agency concluded that there is a limited amount that can be done to address the occupational exposures”; “the Agency is of the view that further investigations on the reproductive toxicity of 1080 are desirable due to the severity of the effects found”; “No carcinogenicity studies have yet been carried out”; “developmental effects in offspring are seen at dose levels which are not associated with toxic effects” “Estimates of some health risk[s] based on .. the Permissible Daily Exposure limits for food and water in some cases appear unacceptable.”

**Maori consultation** - “Nga Kaihautu could find little evidence .. that an appropriate process and sufficient time was used during the consultation hui to discuss outcomes of significance to Maori”

**Environmental Risk Management Authority Reassessment of 1080, 2007**  
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