

**Address:** Nairn's Oat cakes  
90 Peffermill Road,  
Edinburgh,  
EH16 5UU

**Date:** 30.01.2026

## **Section 1**

### **FIELD BIOLOGIST INSPECTION**

**Carried out by –** John Stewart BSc

### **PEST GROUPS IDENTIFIED**



Areas where rat activity was observed at the time of the inspection are highlighted in red.

### **Rodents**

Brown rats *Rattus norvegicus* activity was observed externally around the compactor/ bin area highlighted above in figure 1. Rat footprints were also observed in silt on the road at the front elevation of the building. The environment around the factory has a high carrying capacity due to the river embankment providing opportunity for burrowing and the availability of food from the compactor/ waste bins.

Field Mouse *Apodemus sylvaticus* activity was observed in the wall cavity at the right-hand side of the warehouse. Snap traps are in place in this area to control activity. Ultraviolet tracking dust was placed in the area to monitor activity and help ascertain ingress/egress points within the building fabric.

### **Insects**

No insect infestation was observed at the time of inspection; all crawling insect and stored product insect monitors were inspected and in good order.

## Birds

No bird activity was observed at the time of inspection.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Priority Actions

**High:** Immediate action is required within 1 week.

**Medium:** Action required within 2-3 weeks.

**Low:** Action to be planned within 6 weeks.

### Housekeeping:

The standards of housekeeping within the warehouse were of good standards, with minimal housekeeping recommendations found.



Debris was found gathering in the warehouse under the cleaning equipment locker. Please clean this area to allow for inspection and to remove potential food sources for insects. **Medium**

## Building Fabrication:



The L shaped metal plate at the floor wall junction in the warehouse adjacent to bait point 29 has been damaged, this presents a trip hazard and may allow food debris to become trapped. Please repair to deny harbourage. **Medium**

## Stacking:

Good standards of stacking were observed at the time of the inspection all floor wall junctions were clear to inspect.

## External influences:



Universal bin bung

The drainage bungs were found missing from the base of the bins, this is allowing the rats to enter the bins and gain access to food stuffs. Please clean out the bins disposing of the waste and replace/ get alternative bungs for the base of the bins. **High**



Gaps were observed between the compactor and where the transit bars are inserted allowing rats to gain access to food waste. An alternative type of compactor should be sought, or caps should be fabricated to deny rat entry into the compactor. **High**



An example of a waste compactor that is fully enclosed to deny rodent entry.



The surface water drain adjacent to the compactor requires cleaning to allow inspection and free flow of water. **Medium**

**Summary:**

The standards of housekeeping/ stacking within the factory are good. The external area where the waste compactor and bins are situated lends itself to high levels of rat activity due to the Braid burn and vegetation surrounding the area, this is out with the boundary of the factory. To manage the current rat activity, it is imperative that the carrying capacity of the environment is reduced by denying food sources available to rats.

Follow up inspections will be conducted in alignment with auditing specifications to monitor and control activity.

John Stewart BSc

