

# General Pest & Rodent Control (GRC) Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



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## **Questions**

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- 1. What is the purpose of applying termiticide in foundation work?**
  - A. To provide insulation**
  - B. To prevent moisture accumulation**
  - C. To block pest entry**
  - D. To enhance structural support**
- 2. In pest control strategy, what does 'backfill' refer to?**
  - A. Material used to fill foundation holes**
  - B. Pest repellent material**
  - C. A chemical applied to surfaces**
  - D. Devices used to trap pests**
- 3. What is a distinguishing feature of the red flower beetle?**
  - A. Webbing in nests**
  - B. Large size**
  - C. Bright coloration**
  - D. None, it's not an anobiid beetle**
- 4. Which category of insurance is critical when dealing with wood-destroying organisms?**
  - A. General liability insurance**
  - B. Property insurance**
  - C. Errors and omissions insurance**
  - D. Workers' compensation insurance**
- 5. What does habitat modification primarily involve?**
  - A. Using baits**
  - B. Applying sprays in cracks and crevices**
  - C. Removal of access to food, water, and harborage sites**
  - D. Installing electronic traps**

- 6. Which of the following is NOT typically a method to control fabric pests?**
- A. Insecticidal dusting**
  - B. Removing infested items**
  - C. Leaving items untreated**
  - D. Fumigation**
- 7. Which of the following does NOT coil or roll up when disturbed?**
- A. Pill bug**
  - B. Centipede**
  - C. Millipede**
  - D. All of the above**
- 8. What is a primary reason pest control measures may fail with cockroaches?**
- A. Inadequate quantity of insecticide**
  - B. Improper identification of species**
  - C. Not targeting their food source**
  - D. Ignoring moisture control**
- 9. What do centipedes primarily feed on?**
- A. Plants**
  - B. Decaying wood**
  - C. Live insects**
  - D. Organic waste**
- 10. Silverfish are typically found living in:**
- A. In dark cool places**
  - B. In hot, dark places**
  - C. In bright sunny areas**
  - D. Near sources of water**

## **Answers**

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1. C
2. A
3. D
4. C
5. C
6. C
7. B
8. D
9. C
10. A

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What is the purpose of applying termiticide in foundation work?**

- A. To provide insulation**
- B. To prevent moisture accumulation**
- C. To block pest entry**
- D. To enhance structural support**

The application of termiticide in foundation work serves primarily to block pest entry, particularly that of termites. Termites are notorious for causing significant structural damage by feeding on wood and other cellulose materials. By treating the foundation with a termiticide, which creates a chemical barrier, it effectively deters these pests from entering the building. This preventative measure is crucial in protecting the integrity of the structure and ensuring a long-lasting foundation without pest-related issues. While insulating properties, moisture accumulation prevention, and structural support are important aspects of construction and building maintenance, they do not align with the specific function of termiticides. Insulation relates to temperature control; moisture accumulation is usually managed through drainage and waterproofing systems, and structural support is provided by the materials and design of the building itself. Termiticides are specifically formulated to target and eliminate the risk of termite infestations, underscoring their role in pest control rather than these unrelated benefits.

**2. In pest control strategy, what does 'backfill' refer to?**

- A. Material used to fill foundation holes**
- B. Pest repellent material**
- C. A chemical applied to surfaces**
- D. Devices used to trap pests**

Backfill refers to the material that is used to fill foundation holes or excavations after construction work has been completed. In the context of pest control, backfilling can be crucial in preventing entry points for pests, such as rodents or insects, into structures. Proper filling of holes and gaps around foundations can limit access to these pests, thereby contributing to an effective pest management strategy. It is part of the broader approach to maintaining the integrity of structures and reducing the likelihood of pest infestations by sealing pathways through which pests could enter.

### 3. What is a distinguishing feature of the red flower beetle?

- A. Webbing in nests
- B. Large size
- C. Bright coloration
- D. None, it's not an anobiid beetle**

The red flower beetle is not classified as an anobiid beetle, which is a critical detail in identifying different types of beetles and understanding their classification. Distinguishing features of insects often derive from their family or genus, and the red flower beetle falls outside the anobiid category. Many insects can share characteristics, like coloration or size, but what sets apart the red flower beetle specifically is its classification and absence from this particular family of beetles. This emphasizes the importance of taxonomy in pest control and identification, enabling professionals to accurately distinguish between species for effective management strategies. In contrast, features like webbing in nests, large size, or bright coloration do not uniquely identify the red flower beetle, as these traits can be found in various beetle species across different families. Recognizing the classification can help in understanding the biology and behavior of the red flower beetle and how to manage it effectively within pest control practice.

### 4. Which category of insurance is critical when dealing with wood-destroying organisms?

- A. General liability insurance
- B. Property insurance
- C. Errors and omissions insurance**
- D. Workers' compensation insurance

When dealing with wood-destroying organisms, errors and omissions insurance is critical. This type of insurance protects service providers, including pest control professionals, from claims related to negligence or failure to deliver services as promised. In the context of wood-destroying organisms, if a pest control company fails to effectively treat or identify an infestation leading to further damage, they could be held liable by the property owner. Errors and omissions insurance provides financial protection in case of lawsuits or claims arising from such situations, covering legal fees and damages awarded. While general liability insurance covers bodily injury and property damage caused to others during the course of business, it does not specifically address professional errors in service provided. Property insurance generally protects physical assets from damage but does not guard against liabilities stemming from professional services. Workers' compensation insurance is essential for protecting employees who may get injured on the job but does not relate to liabilities associated with pest control services. Therefore, errors and omissions insurance is essential for professionals dealing with wood-destroying organisms to mitigate risks associated with their services.

**5. What does habitat modification primarily involve?**

- A. Using baits**
- B. Applying sprays in cracks and crevices**
- C. Removal of access to food, water, and harborage sites**
- D. Installing electronic traps**

Habitat modification primarily involves the elimination of access to food, water, and harborage sites. This practice is essential in pest control because it tackles the root causes of infestations. By making an environment less conducive to pest survival and reproduction, it reduces the likelihood of pests finding the resources they need to thrive. For example, blocking entrances to structures, cleaning up food sources, fixing leaks to eliminate water sources, and removing clutter that may serve as hiding spots all contribute to an environment that is less hospitable to pests. Unlike the other options, which focus on direct actions such as using baits, applying chemical treatments, or setting traps, habitat modification is a preventative strategy that helps to maintain a long-term solution to pest problems.

**6. Which of the following is NOT typically a method to control fabric pests?**

- A. Insecticidal dusting**
- B. Removing infested items**
- C. Leaving items untreated**
- D. Fumigation**

Leaving items untreated is not a recognized method for controlling fabric pests. Effective pest management relies on proactive measures to eliminate or mitigate infestations. When dealing with fabric pests, like moths or carpet beetles, allowing items to remain untreated can exacerbate the problem, as pests can continue to feed and reproduce, leading to further damage. Insecticidal dusting and fumigation are active intervention strategies that directly target and kill pests, while removing infested items helps to eliminate the source of the infestation. These methods focus on controlling current infestations and preventing future ones, while simply leaving items untreated can result in a worsening situation without any effective mitigation of the problem.

**7. Which of the following does NOT coil or roll up when disturbed?**

**A. Pill bug**

**B. Centipede**

**C. Millipede**

**D. All of the above**

The correct understanding hinges on the behavior of the organisms in question. Pill bugs, also known as roly-polies, have the ability to roll into a ball when disturbed, a defensive mechanism that protects them from predators. Millipedes can also exhibit a coiling or rolling behavior, typically curling into a tight spiral when threatened. In contrast, centipedes do not possess this coiling or rolling behavior. Instead, when disturbed, they tend to flee rather than curl up. They are fast-moving predators equipped with venomous bite capabilities, which makes their primary defensive tactic one of mobility rather than rolling up. Recognizing these behavioral traits helps clarify why centipedes are the only group listed that does not coil or roll up when disturbed, setting them apart from the pill bugs and millipedes.

**8. What is a primary reason pest control measures may fail with cockroaches?**

**A. Inadequate quantity of insecticide**

**B. Improper identification of species**

**C. Not targeting their food source**

**D. Ignoring moisture control**

The primary reason pest control measures may fail with cockroaches is often linked to ignoring moisture control. Cockroaches thrive in environments that provide them with access to moisture, as they require water to survive. Without effectively managing moisture levels, such as fixing leaks, reducing humidity, and eliminating standing water, control measures can be significantly undermined. Even if pest control treatments are applied correctly, if moisture sources remain, cockroaches will continue to be attracted to the area, breed, and survive, leading to persistent infestations despite treatment efforts. Therefore, addressing moisture control is a crucial component in successfully managing and eradicating cockroach populations.

## 9. What do centipedes primarily feed on?

- A. Plants
- B. Decaying wood
- C. Live insects**
- D. Organic waste

Centipedes primarily feed on live insects, making this choice correct. These predatory arthropods have specialized mouthparts that allow them to grasp and inject venom into their prey, which often includes a variety of small invertebrates such as insects and spiders. This feeding behavior is crucial for their role in the ecosystem, as they help control pest populations by preying on other small creatures. While centipedes may occasionally interact with decaying organic matter or other materials in their environment, their active predatory lifestyle primarily revolves around hunting live insects. They are not herbivorous and do not primarily consume plant material or decaying wood, which distinguishes them from other organisms that have different feeding habits.

## 10. Silverfish are typically found living in:

- A. In dark cool places**
- B. In hot, dark places
- C. In bright sunny areas
- D. Near sources of water

Silverfish are typically found living in dark, cool places. This preference is primarily due to their natural habitat and biological characteristics. Silverfish are nocturnal insects that thrive in environments with high humidity and low light levels. They are commonly found in areas such as basements, attics, bathrooms, and kitchens, where conditions are often cool and sheltered from direct sunlight. These insects are also known to seek out areas that provide access to moisture, as they need water to survive. However, they prioritize dark environments as a means of protection from predators and environmental extremes. Therefore, the choice that states they inhabit dark, cool areas accurately reflects their behavior and habitat preferences. In contrast, an option mentioning hot, dark places would not be ideal since silverfish do not thrive in excessively warm environments. Bright sunny areas are unsuitable habitats for them as these conditions are not conducive to their survival. While proximity to water sources is important, it is their preference for dark and cool habitats that is the primary reason for their occurrence in residential and urban environments.