Raptors at RISK

THE STORY: Farmland raptors are declining and Hawk Mountain needs your help to stop their decline. Worldwide, anticoagulant rodenticide poison is the most commonly used chemical method to handle pests. When rodents consume poison, they do not die immediately; they have time to travel outside of houses and into raptor territory. Rodent behavior becomes so altered that they are an easy catch for a raptor, dog, cat, or fox. Hawks, owls, eagles and other wildlife are dying due to this poisoned prey.

Anticoagulant rodenticides (AR) chemically block an animal’s vitamin K cycle and thus prevent an animal’s blood from clotting. After consumption, raptors will slowly die due to internal bleeding. If they do not die from painful hemorrhaging, their extreme thirst can lead to accidental self-drowning.

First generation ARs, second generation ARs, and even non-anticoagulant rodenticides, are all risks to wildlife. Second Generation ARs are more dangerous because they do not kill quickly. A rodent may consume far more than a lethal dose, and that lethal dose will be present in its tissues when a raptor plucks it off the ground.

DO NOT USE:
- d-CON, Bell Labs, Woodstream
- these brands use bromethalin, a neurotoxic rodenticide that has no antidote for pets or wildlife
- Hot Shot, Generation, Talon, Havoc
- use second generation ARs that kill wildlife that eat poisoned rodents

POISONS KILL!

ALTERNATIVES
- install kestrel or barn owl nest boxes
- install electronic repellers in barns
- remove trash near barns
- tighten/protect trash bags
- rat-proof flooring for coops & barns
- cayenne pepper (natural repellent)
- disperse mint oil & plant spearmint around barn

Install a Kestrel or Barn Owl Box

Raptors are the natural solution to a pest control problem. One red-tailed hawk can kill and eat 300 rodents a year. Barn owls are better as they are highly efficient and prey almost exclusively on rodents.

For more information on boxes contact Hawk Mountain at (610)-756-6961

Use snap traps INDOORS ONLY
A DANGER TO ALL: The sale and placement of second generation anticoagulant rodenticide pellets is illegal. Unfortunately, “bait boxes” are not illegal. These boxes contain blocks of poison so that animals and children cannot directly consume it. However, mice and rats consume the poison and leave the box, exposing other animals to secondary exposure poisoning.

**FAST FACTS**
- In 2014, over 11,300 people were poisoned by rodenticides.
- 75% were children under the age of 6.
- More than 100 pets die each year due to rodenticides.

Learn more and how to help at: hawkmountain.org/farmlandraptors and raptorsarethesolutions.org