

APPENDIX 2: Presentation of the choice experiment

Rats



Stoats



Wasps



Please read the descriptions of three new techniques below.

Name: New Toxin

What is it: A new toxin that is species specific (eg it only kills rats) and does not kill other animals. This would be an alternative to 1080.

Name: Trojan Female

What is it: Breeding female animals (eg rats) that naturally produce infertile male offspring.

How is it delivered: The Trojan Females are bred in the lab in small numbers and then released into the environment.

How can it eradicate pests: Over time the male offspring in the environment becomes less fertile and the pest population size falls significantly. There is no risk to other species.

Name: Gene Drive

What is it: An animal's DNA is edited in the lab.

How is it delivered: Large numbers of the animals are bred in a lab and released into the environment to breed with wild animals.

How can it eradicate pests: By infertility or death -

- Infertility – the animals bred in the lab can only produce male offspring. When they breed with wild animals the number of females fall. With fewer females to breed with, the entire population size falls over time.
- Death – the animals bred in the lab pass on a gene to their offspring, which means the offspring die when they eat a certain type of bait. Over time the offspring will die and the population falls.

In the following questions, you will be asked choose between two different options. The set of circumstances for each option will vary. They will include:

The new pest control technique	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Toxin, • Trojan female • Gene Drive
The animal the new technique would control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rats, • Wasps • Stoats
How the technique will be delivered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On the ground • From the air
What happens to the animal who interacts with the new method	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infertility • Death