COMPARATIVE RODENTICIDES PALATABILITY AGAINST *RATTUS RATTUS* AND *MUS MUSCULUS* ON POULTRY FARM FACILITIES

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INTRODUCTION

From all 2,000 species known of rodents distributed around the world, 125 are classified as a plague and 3 species represent a great importance in Brazil, *Mus musculus* (mice), *Rattus norvegicus* (norway rat) and *Rattus rattus* (black rats, roof rats). Although these species are frequently found at urban areas, they may also occur on a farm environment, where poultry are bred. It is essential to use appropriate protocols as well as appropriate products to control this kind of menace that may lead to several loss of productivity.

OBJECTIVES

The aim of this study was to evaluate the comparative palatability of 6 distinct blocks against a recent released 20g extruded block (Talon Blocos XT®), called here as P1, on *Rattus rattus* and *Mus musculus*.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Two field studies were conducted to evaluate the palatability of P1 against other products, at Lacri city, at a quails creation facility infested by *Rattus rattus*, and at Bastos city, at a egg laying chicken facility infested by *Mus musculus*. P1 was compared to 2 extruded blocks, 2 compressed blocks and 2 wax blocks commercially available in Brazil. During sixty days, between November 2014 and January 2015, 20 bait stations were positioned on strategic points on each site. Ten bait stations contained P1 plus 3 blocks simultaneously and the other ten bait stations contained P1 plus the other 3 blocks simultaneously. Consumption was evaluated by weighting and replacing the blocks during the trial.

RESULTS

Results showed that P1 has superior palatability in field conditions when compared to all competitors, for both species, as shown on Fig. 1, Fig. 2, Fig. 3 and Fig. 4. The obtained information is valuable when designing an effective rodent program where an attractive bait product is required.

Fig. 1- Distribution (%) of Total Rodenticide Consumption (Talon, P2, P3 and P4) by *Mus musculus* on Eggs Laying Chicken Facility

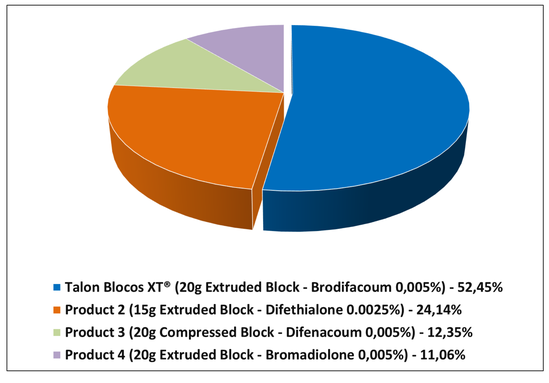


Fig. 2- Distribution (%) of Total Rodenticide Consumption (Talon, P5, P6 and P7) by *Mus musculus* on Eggs Laying Chicken Facility

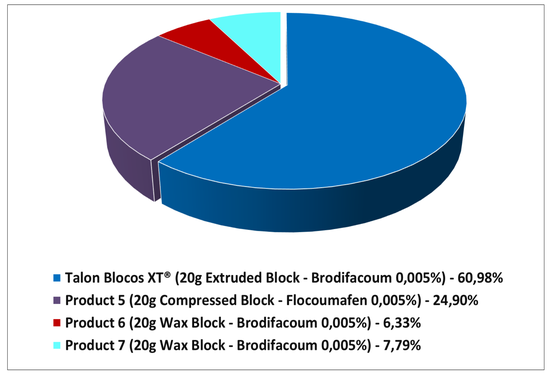


Fig. 3- Distribution (%) of Total Rodenticide Consumption (Talon, P2, P3 and P4) by *Rattus rattus* on Quails Creation Facility

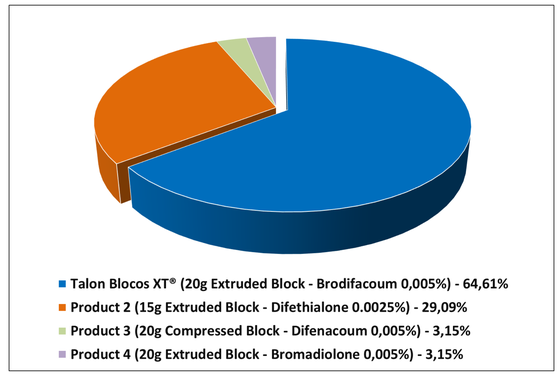
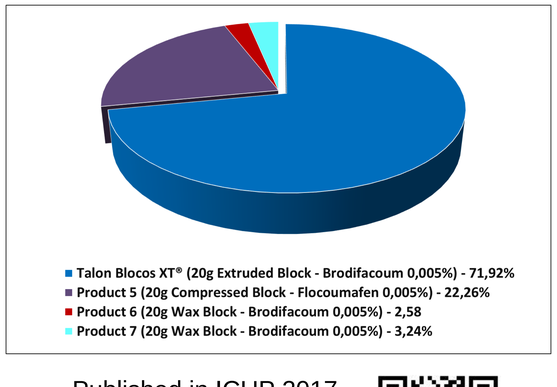


Fig. 4- Distribution (%) of Total Rodenticide Consumption (Talon, P5, P6 and P7) by *Rattus rattus* on Quails Creation Facility



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