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Rabies vaccine-bait identification

May 2009

There is currently one type of vaccine bait, the Ultra-lite, that is used in Ontario for both fox and raccoon rabies control. Exposure to the bait is not harmful to people or pets; however, in the unlikely event that people or pets come in contact with the vaccine contained in the bait, contacting a doctor or veterinarian as a precaution is recommended.

Bait Ingredients

The bait formula coats the blister pack containing the vaccine. This formula consists of fats, wax, icing sugar, vegetable oil, artificial marshmallow flavour and dark-green food grade fat-soluble dye. Also included in the bait formula is a small amount of tetracycline which is used as a marker so that researchers can determine if an animal has consumed a vaccine bait.

Blister-pack (Vaccine Carrier)

Ultra-lite

This is a polyvinyl chloride (PVC) blister pack (40 mm x 22 mm x 10 mm) which weighs approximately 4.3 grams. The blister pack is a teal green polyester flocked container with a heat-sealed laminated polyester lidding. The body of the blister pack is embedded in the bait matrix but the green lidding is exposed and has a black warning label printed on it.



Ultra-lite vaccine bait

Vaccine in Baits

ERA©-BHK-21 oral rabies vaccine

Description: a 'modified/ live virus liquid vaccine

Volume/bait: 1.8 ±0.1 ml in the blister-pack

Other inclusions: antibiotics and vaccine stabilizers

Colour: golden red opaque

Target species: foxes only

ONRAB oral rabies vaccine

Description: a recombinant live virus liquid vaccine

Volume/bait: 1.8 ±0.1 ml in the blister pack

Other inclusions: antibiotics and vaccine stabilizers

Colour: pale orange to pale pink

Target species: skunk, possibly fox and raccoon

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ontario.ca/rabies