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Torco Pest Control

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NPCA BIRD MANAGEMENT MANUAL

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We are going to discuss the new Bird Management Manual that the National Pest Control Association has put together for its members and those of you in the bird management business who would like to have such a manual. It covers bird management from the standpoint of people working under the rules and regulations of bird control in North America. It deals with the laws of the North American Treaty, the different state regulations, and those local and regional regulations that we are aware of.

The manual is a basic working tool designed to help persons trying to determine if bird management is something to be included in service activities, helping them to make decisions on that additional service and giving them a good bit of initial guidance on how to provide those services. It assists in many ways in understanding the materials, tools, and devices that are presently available and appropriately registered (in the case of pesticides) for bird management.

It is in a 3-ring binder put together in that format so that we can remove things that no longer are appropriate and can add new items that come to the industry and the bird management area. We had hoped that you would be able to use it both as a reference manual and as a training tool.

Let me tell you some of the people who provided the input into this manual. George Hockenyos, who is one of the very early bird management/bird controllers, did the initial work; Noad Corley and the Vetebrate Control Committee brought it to this printed form. Dr. William Jackson at Bowling Green provided a great deal of input, particularly with the research areas; Beth Jackson provided assistance with the technical writing. Also involved were Sandra Kraft of the University of Maryland; Vern McKinzie of McKinzie-Schendel Pest Control in Emporia, Kansas; Rex Marsh of the University of California; Dr. Phillip J. Spear, who during the time this manual was being compiled was the Research Director of the National Pest Control Association; and Art Toedtman of the Conner Pest Control Company. Nelson Swink, from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, provided some review of the information as well as access to the Fish and Wildlife Service data and information.

Beyond that, Larry Pinto, who was on the NPCA staff, actually did the compilation. Amy Wright did the art work. There are a number of colored pictures to be used in identification, and some line-drawings help in identifying in-flight patterns.

The table of contents starts out with the introduction to pest bird management and deals with the economic and health hazards of pest birds. Certainly we who are involved in bird management have to answer a great number of those kinds of questions, particularly as we deal with municipalities and community activities. The next part is legal responsibilities. What are your legal responsibilities and how do you deal with them? This is followed by tools and methods. Within that area are included surveys, habitat modification, exclusion, repellents, dispersal, trapping, shooting, and chemical control. The major pest birds that are discussed, relative to identification, biology, and behavior, are pigeons, starlings, house sparrows, crows, seagulls, woodpeckers, and blackbirds.

The next area of the book deals with the business of bird management, including public relations, insurance, guarantees and warrantees, equipment, selecting and

supervising personnel, and marketing. Sample bird management programs are included.

There are appendices, which list for your information the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service district offices and state natural resource areas, where you go for kill permits and local information. Sample bird management product labels are provided. All of the known labels for all of the products that now have EPA registration and labels are in here in a sample form. A list of suppliers of bird control equipment, which will be continually updated, is included. Within that supplier group there are automatic gas exploder manufacturers and dealers, exploding shell producers, manufacturers of mechanical repellents and electrical repellers; netting to protect crops or for bird capture and identification; pyrotechnic devices, such as noise rockets, bombs, whistles, rocket bombs; different kinds of traps; and sound devices, such as amplified sound devices and distress calls.

This manual was put together for anybody who can benefit from it and can be obtained from the National Pest Control Association (8100 Oak Street, Dunn Loring, VA 22027).