Sample SOP: Pest Monitoring, Management, and Corrective Actions Program to Minimize
Food Safety Risks in Packing and
Postharvest Handling Areas.

**Revision: 1.0
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1—Purpose

Describes how to monitor, manage, and respond to pest activity in fresh fruit and vegetable postharvest handling areas.

2—Scope

Applies to farm and packinghouse workers including farm owners and managers who will need to manage pest control activities on the farm and in the packing area.

3—Responsibility

Farm owners and managers must identify potential food safety hazards associated with pest activity in an effort to prevent the contamination of fresh produce during postharvest handling. Workers are responsible for following the pest control SOPs and for reporting any food safety hazards associated with pests to their supervisors.

4—Materials

* Recordkeeping logs
* Rodent traps (un-baited if inside packinghouse)
* Phone number and contact information for pest control company

5—Procedure

To be completed and reviewed yearly to ensure the pest control program is functioning properly to reduce food safety risks associated with pests in postharvest handling areas.

1. Scout the packing and handling areas for signs of pest activity (e.g. droppings, nests, damaged product) to identify type of pest and extent of activity.
2. If pest activity is found, develop and implement strategies to reduce or eliminate their presence such as using un-baited traps in the packinghouse, installing bird netting, or hiring a pest control specialist.
3. Monitor for pest activity including checking traps and scouting for pest activity in and around the packing facility every ***[Add time frame here]***.
4. Document all monitoring and control activities.
5. [Outline corrective actions for immediate food safety threats that may occur from pest activity here such as bird feces found on product, rodent activity in storage areas].