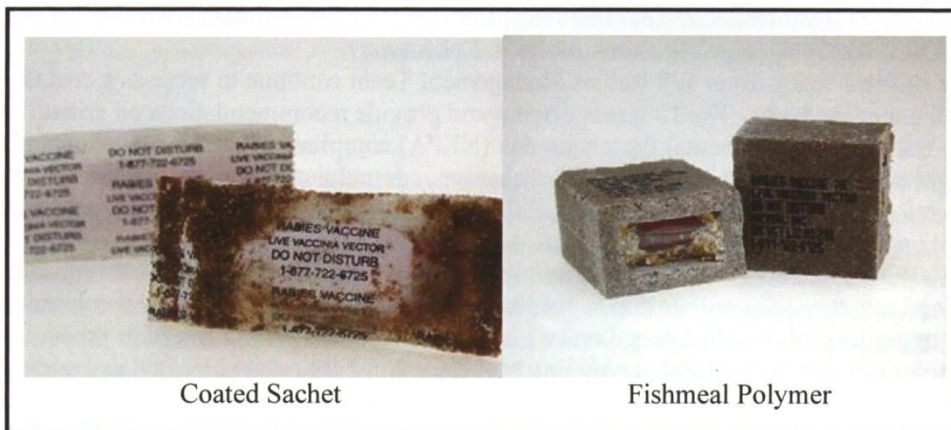


General Information about the Oral Rabies Vaccine (ORV) Program

If someone has complaints or questions concerning the use of baits or the legality of the ORV program, please visit www.aphis.usda.gov/wildlife-damage/rabies or contact Wildlife Services toll free at 1-866-4-USDA-WS (1-866-487-3297). The ADPH is only addressing health-related issues from bait contact.

Q. What is an oral rabies vaccination (ORV) bait and what does it look like?

A. WS and its cooperators distribute the ORV baits in targeted areas to vaccinate wildlife species—such as coyotes, foxes, and raccoons—to prevent the spread of rabies. An ORV bait consists of a sachet, or plastic packet containing Raboral V-RG® rabies vaccine. To make the baits attractive to wildlife, the baits are either waxed to the inside of a fishmeal or dog meal outer shell or covered with fishmeal crumbs.



Q. Can I get rabies from contact with the vaccine?

A. No. The vaccine does not contain the live rabies virus. It contains only a single gene that is passcoded with the outer coating of the rabies virus. The virus that carries this single gene may cause a local poxtype infection in people who are pregnant or immunosuppressed. If you come into contact with the vaccine, wash the exposed area thoroughly with soap and water and contact physician.

Q. What if I find an oral rabies vaccination (ORV) bait near my home?

A. It is best to leave a bait where you find it unless it is on your lawn, driveway, or other area where it is not likely to attract a raccoon, fox, or coyote. While wearing a glove or other protective covering (i.e., plastic bag, paper towel), you can move bait to a wooded area where a wild animal will be more likely to find it. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water after any contact with raccoons.

Q. Why do I need to wear gloves when handling an ORV bait?

A. An intact bait will not harm you, but the smell, which is objectionable to people, may get on your skin. If the sachet is broken, pink liquid (vaccine) may be visible. While wearing gloves, you may place the bait in a bag and dispose of it with your regular trash. If you do not have a

glove, you can use a plastic bag or paper towel to prevent you from coming into direct contact with the bait and vaccine. Be sure to dispose of it after use. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water after any contact with a bait. If you suspect you may have been exposed to the vaccine (pink liquid inside the package), please contact your physician.

Q. What is the most common condition caused by touching the bait?

A. An allergic skin condition or rash from the fish meal coating on the surface of bait may occur. If you develop a rash after touching the bait please consult with your physician. If you are immune compromised, pregnant or have dermatological condition, or had eye or mouth exposure please contact your physician. The concern is the vaccinia virus carrier, not rabies. There is no risk of humans or animals contracting rabies from the bait.

Q. What if my child finds an ORV bait?

A. The smell of the bait generally prevents children from playing with them or tasting them. If your child brings you an intact bait, you may place the bait into an area of thick cover. If your child brings you a broken bait, wash the exposed skin and contact your physician. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water after any contact with a bait.

Q. What if a pet eats an ORV bait?

A. Do not panic - this vaccine has been shown to be safe in more than 60 different species of animals, including domestic dogs and cats. Eating a large number of baits may cause a temporarily upset stomach in your pet, but it does not pose a long-term health risk. Do not risk getting bitten or being exposed to the vaccine by attempting to remove a bait from your pet. If your pet becomes ill from bait consumption, please contact your veterinarian for more information. Also, be sure to stay away from your pet's saliva for 24 hours after their exposure.

Q. Can I use the ORV bait to vaccinate my dog or cat?

A. No. This vaccine is only approved for use in wildlife. Your pet should be properly vaccinated by a veterinarian.

Q. How does a raccoon/coyote/gray fox get vaccinated by eating the ORV bait?

A. The vaccine is contained inside a plastic packet, which is waxed to the inside of the bait's fishmeal outer shell or covered with fishmeal crumbs. When an animal eats through the coating, the vaccine packet inside is punctured allowing the animal to swallow the vaccine. The animal's immune system is then tricked into thinking it has been exposed to the rabies virus, and it makes antibodies to fight the disease. The blueprint on how to make these antibodies is stored in the animal's immune system allowing it to respond quickly if it is later exposed to a rabid animal.

Q. How else does WS distribute ORV baits?

A. In rural or open areas, WS distributes baits using aircraft. Depending on the distribution area and availability of aircraft, a helicopter or fixed wing aircraft may

Q. Does my dog need to be vaccinated after eating bait?

A. No, the packet is a killed vaccine and will not cause rabies in a vaccinated or non-vaccinated animal.