



English edition  
**pestip**<sup>®</sup>

UrbanGuard  
newsletter & advertising  
for distribution partners

After a late start we are now having a brilliant summer in Europe. Good for the pesties! Wasps are a welcome menace for the industry. It just shows how dependant pest management is on weather. If the summers are cool, there are hardly any wasps. The same applies for ant control in spring. What kind of advice could we give to service companies?

The answer could be to look for other service jobs or turn the technical staff into a sales force. Distributing leaflets and talking about their job, anyone can do, particularly when a little training is applied. Perhaps you wish to think along those lines when the next slack period arrives.  
**BW**



Visit in Paradise or  
work in Hell

**An ecological  
restoration project**

The wildlife of the most remote and pristine reef systems in the world is under threat from intro-



duced black rats through competition, predation and habitat modification.

The Chagos Project 2006 will greatly improve conditions for the wildlife, especially seabirds and sea turtles and promote the regeneration of natural vegetation.

A rat eradication programme was carried out in a 3 months period, beginning at the end of January 2006.

For this special type of pest management work in a very special environment one needed people with experience and readiness to endure hardship.

Guntram Meier of Ingrid, a German company in Berlin was chosen to lead and organise the project.



[www.ingrip.com](http://www.ingrip.com)

cont. page 2

**THIS ISSUE**

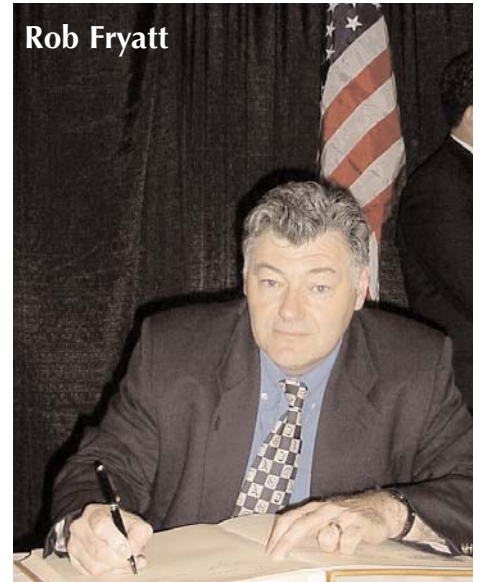
- Rodent News
- UrbanGuard Workshops

**XENEX**

+++ Stop Press +++  
+++ Latest News +++

Xenex Associates headed by Rob Fryatt is cooperating with UrbanGuard. Fryatt is a very experienced lead person in the pest control world and is now the part time Director General of

**Rob Fryatt**



[www.xenexassociates.com](http://www.xenexassociates.com)

CEPA.

He is also running a consultancy company, advising on innovative Pest Management Materials and Programmes, visiting many parts of the world. In future he will also be engaged in the UrbanGuard Training Programme.

cont. page 2

**cont. from page 1/ XENEX**

If you read International Trade Magazines, you will have seen quite a number of articles about or from Rob Fryatt. Fryatt is now a regular writer for those magazines, so you are sure to hear more from him.

Should you visit FAOPMA ( [www.faopmaustralia.org](http://www.faopmaustralia.org) / 26-29 July 2006 ) in Brisbane, Australia you are sure to run into Rob. Why not use this opportunity to meet up with him and discuss new developments.

**cont. from page 1/ Chagos**

Meier is working regularly in similar surroundings, having gained experience from projects in Cuba, Bahamas, Antigua, Mexico, Brazil and Indonesia, to name a few.

He has worked for both the Berlin Zoological Gardens; first as a warden and was later commissioned to a senior position protecting endangered species. This was followed by taking part in a nature protection project in the Philippines for 18 months. The programme was run and financed by the Ruhr-University of Bochum in Germany. Soon it became obvious to the German that nature protection in many isolated areas had to work closely together with pest management.

So for Meier this experience



became a milestone in his future career. He developed a keen interest for pest management, corresponded with well-known experts and attended international conventions. Since much of his work touched unknown territory it was at first the typical "learning by doing".

Meier was ready to go commercial and now runs "Ingrip" a well respected service company for special tasks. His capability to speak foreign languages and his talent for team management and for supervising long-term projects gave him a unique position in the market.

At this stage, Meier is mainly engaged with the control of invasive pests, such as black rats and works for governments or Nature Protection Organisations. His knowledge of various rat species and their behaviour is amazing and doubtlessly will help to stay in business.

The project planned for the beginning of this year was the eradication of black rats on Eagle

Island, a small, uninhibited island of the Chagos Archipelago a group of Islands in the Indian Ocean, half way between Sri Lanka and Madagascar. The area is better known for its American Military Base and stationing of long distance bomber jets on Diego Garcia. However the entire island group is British Overseas Territory.

As often happened, seafarers landing on strange shores brought sicknesses and rats with them.

The rats multiplied to a staggering level of more than 10 000 animals, outsizeing the availability of food. That explains the bad state of the animals.



Food was limited to what nature offered. Undernourishment took its toll and sicknesses were obvious.

A further development was the massive infestation of pests such as fleas and ticks.

**cont. page 3**

**You can now offer your customers:**

**PERMANET Pigeon Control Nets  
in special sizes\*  
for immediate delivery**

**by ordering net rolls / \* 2 m wide / up to 100 m long / black or stone**

**cont. from page 2**

The rats fed on everything they could lay their eyes on - anything what moved or could be harvested. Crabs, turtle eggs, seabird eggs, young birds - everything.

Additionally it was found that the island's table water was polluted with bacteria and unusable. In total the island looked beautiful from a distance, but at closer range it looked pathetic and was dangerous to anyone wishing to set foot on land.

To put this right an intelligent pest management scheme had to be installed - with the aim to reach total eradication and to monitor future development.

The island is approximately 5000 metres long and has an average width of 700 m.

The team consisted of 11 per-



sons, including a medical doctor. Only in emergencies could the nearest human settlement, the base in Diego Garcia - approximately 60 km by sea, be contacted.

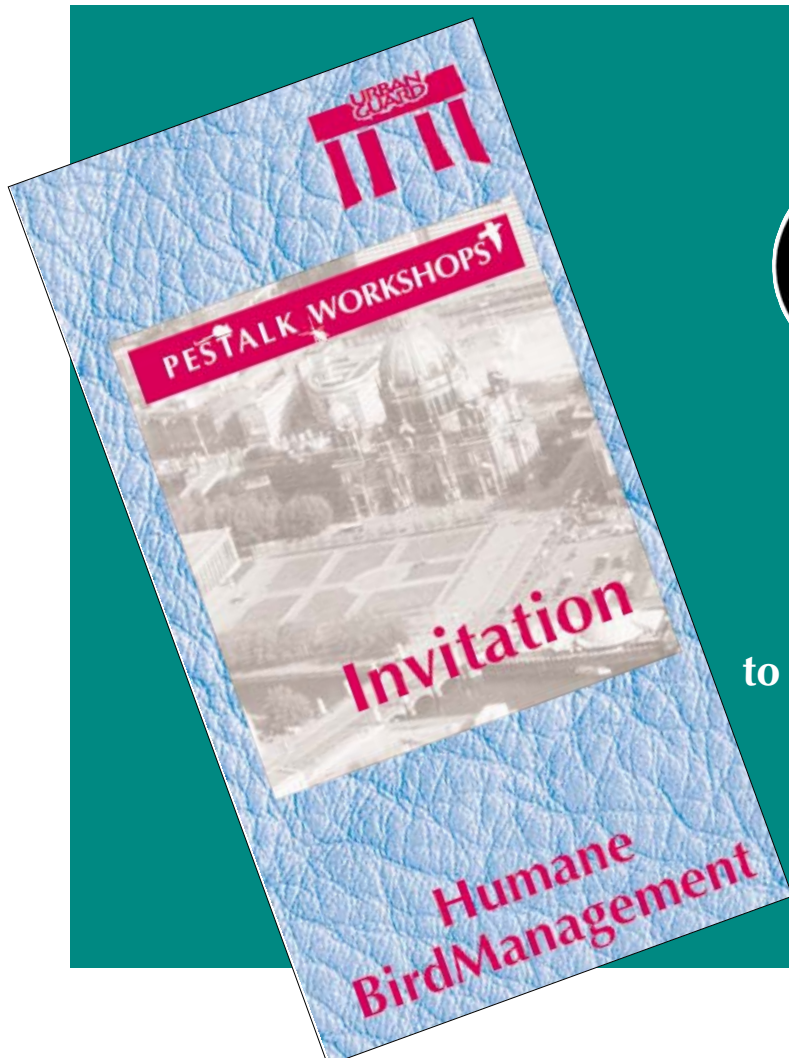
Furthermore, in order to be self-sufficient a desalination unit had to be shipped to the island and enough food and equipment.

All in all it was a challenge for logistics and planning.

Everything was packed and shipped from Europe and had to be right.

Amongst tons of bait blocks around 3000 of Urbanguard's BateSafe Stations were used, besides numerous traps, monitors and emergency compounds. The entire island was subdivided into baiting points 30 metres apart and on each point a BateSafe was used.

**cont. page 4**



**UrbanGuard  
BirdManagement  
Product-Customers\*  
are increasingly adapting  
the PowerPoint Presentation  
to run workshops in their own Country.**

**Available in German and English and  
soon in Spanish. Other languages are  
feasible.**

\*special conditions apply

**Use BateSafe Rat Bait Stations**  
intelligent design  
sold worldwide

cont. from page 3

A dense placement over an entire area was new territory to the team.

They were very happy to have chosen this type of station, as it was an important logistic advantage to be able to stack the stations into each other and thus reduce transport problems. Also the locking feature made their life easier, as a finger is used instead of special keys. It also made the work considerably faster.



However they also had negative adventures. About 180 BateSafe's were lost. The giant Coconut Crab ( 50 cm in diameter ) cut with their mighty claws through the plastic in search of food.

Other negative experiences? Yes, the team couldn't shower. The ground water was polluted and the desalination process was undersized. A problem when you have to stay 13 weeks.

Towards the end of the programme the stench of decaying rodents was overpowering.

Interesting facts? Yes. Rats could be filmed hunting land crabs.

And a suspicion that at least part of the rat population is made up of different species.

Further studies will give more information. An interesting find and seemingly possible when you know that Eagle Island was uninhibited for 70 years.

How did the work continue?

After establishing the camp, the entire island was researched and

plans were made as to how the operation would be carried out. Depots were established. This already took 6 weeks and was followed by 4 weeks of baiting and checking of baits. Within 2 weeks it became obvious that the eradication scheme was successful. The stench of dead rats was disturbingly eminent and no more bait was taken anywhere. All monitor schemes resulted in "no catch".

Now a substantial hope for the reestablishment of the former habitat is likely. Hopefully the programme will now be turned into a Supervision Scheme, otherwise the money spent on a one-time-only action could have been wasted.

By the way - should you also have problems with rats on your island, we would gladly introduce you to Guntram Meier.

**CSIRO Rodent News**

Comparative studies in India ( dkocher2002@yahoo.co.in ) from Calcutta showed a change in body features of rattus rattus due to long-term exposure to low temperatures. In poultry housing everything observed stayed as usual. However, the rats living in food cooling complexes developed shorter ears and tails, when the animals were exposed to consistent temperatures of 4° C. This caused shorter tails of up to 30%. (Own remark: In the Cold War Storage of Foodstuffs in Berlin rattus norvegicus adapted to survive in permanent deep freeze conditions and grew a thick fur for protection)

House Mice endanger Birdlife in New Zealand. House Mice multiply extremely well in a 2 - 4 year rotation, when beech tree seeds are plentiful. When the overabundance of seeds is used up, the Mice will feed on birds' eggs und young chicks.

"Who would have thought House Mice are capable of doing that?"



*Can be separated in any direction, bends, UV - stable*

**STIXX® VARIO**  
PREMIUM SPIKE MODULE

**NEW**

**STIXX® LITE**  
VERY SLIM & TRANSPARENT,  
POLYCARBONATE - SPIKES

*Works well in any situation*

**Impressum**

The entire contents of this newsletter have been produced in a fair and true manner and to the best of our knowledge and conscience. However, we regret to be unable to accept liability for any statement or any other visual presentation.

Should any misrepresentation have occurred it will be made public within the next edition of pestip.

All disputes are to be handled in front of a court in Berlin/Germany.

Circulation by email

**Published and edited by:**  
**UrbanGuard GmbH**  
Zeltinger Str. 64  
D-13465 Berlin, GERMANY

**phone:** +49 30 401 02 109  
**fax:** +49 30 406 36 325  
**email:** pestip@urbanguard.com  
www.urbanguard.com

To unsubscribe pestip please use the registry form on our website