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Pest management at Eden

Pesticides can be harmful to humans so when we spray them in the biome we make sure that the biome is closed to visitors.

On average the Eden Project spends about £15,000 a year on biocontrol.

Biocontrol organisms pose no risk to our visitors, staff or other animals in the biome.

Biocontrol is when the natural parasites and predators of the pests are used to control their numbers.

Some pesticides can completely eradicate the whole pest population.

The biocontrol organisms only prey on the pest species and will not harm other insects in the biome.

Unfortunately the pesticides we spray are harmful to our biocontrol organisms as well as the pest species!

Biocontrol organisms struggle to control the pest populations if they have grown too large.

Modern pesticides work very quickly and target particular pest species.

Pests ruin the appearance of the plants and reduce the amount of fruit and vegetables that they produce.

Pesticides are manmade chemicals that are used to kill pest organisms.

The Lacewing larvae, ladybirds and parasitic wasps get posted to Eden in insulated polystyrene boxes.

Pesticides can build up to harmful levels within food chains. This is known as **bioaccumulation**.

Scientists are developing pesticides which are **biodegradable**.

It takes a long time for the biocontrol organisms to control the pest population and they will never completely eradicate it.