

Norway Rat and Roof Rat: Suspicious of new foods, bait trays, traps and environment changes for several days

The House Mouse: Immediately inquisitive and exploring of any change.

Habitat

Although the vision of rodents is poor, their sense of smell and taste are so highly developed they can detect minute quantities of chemicals in foodstuffs, this can be lead to "bait shyness". Their whiskers and guard hairs enable them to feel their way in their preferred darkness with little difficulty.

They deposit their droppings on all surfaces over which they travel, and this, together with stains caused by continual urination, provides obvious indications of a rodent presence. Greasy smear marks also become evident along their main routes of movement where they make contact with obstacles. Rodents are equipped with incisor teeth that continually grow, and it is essential they gnaw at frequent intervals to ensure these teeth are sufficiently short to enable them to feed and fight. Fire can result from the short circuiting caused when rodents gnaw electrical conduiting.

Mice:

Mouse holes are normally 20-30mm in diameter. Mice are mainly active at night and can be heard running about as they search for food. Mice can squeeze through cracks as small as 5mm.

Feeding: Mice are inquisitive nibblers eating a wide range of foods in one night, but not more than 3g.

Post Treatment Recommendation

Any rubbish or garbage, if not buried immediately, should be stored in containers with tight fitting lids and emptied regularly.

Wash hands if any contact with the rodent baits.

Prevention Tips

- Hygiene and tidiness is a preventative measure and one of the most effective means of keeping rodent numbers down. Any food spillage (regardless of how small) must be cleaned up. Grain and other foods should be stored in rodent proof containers.
- Ensure all waste especially food waste is disposed of promptly and appropriately
- Ensure food and food wastes are stored in sealed containers, including compost bins
- Ensure stored materials are at least 18 inches off the ground to make access harder and identification of an infestation easier.
- Cut back trees and shrubs from eaves of dwelling
- Install bristle strips to base of doors
- Seal any gaps, holes, around perimeter of dwelling
- Garbage heaps, old machinery, timber piles, weed growth, and general litter, should be removed
- Proofing is a vital part of the control process. Entry points around doors, windows, drain pipes, and vents must all be rectified.
- **Bird Aviaries**: Keep cages clean and store bird seed in sealed containers off the ground.
- DO Ensure safety for children and pets. The rodent bait is a poison. If you have any concerns regarding your pets, Vitamin K1 is the antidote.