



## Rodent Control (integrated pest management approach)

There are several methods of rodent control but not all are practical, nor give an ongoing control. Remember you may be getting rodents, but the source of the problem can be from neighboring locations. This can be a neighbors who have chooks or birds, compost bins, from a creek, park, or industry shops. There could be renovations, an old derelict rundown building, all breeding sites where rodents will continue to expand and invade your property.

### Baiting

Baiting is seen as the most cost-effective means and designed for ongoing control from 3 to 6 months. The use of tamperproof lockable stations and cable ties using block bait, to enable us to secure baits To prevent both children and pets from accessing. Baits allow time for rodents to feed and then head to the exterior in most cases, the bait remains in those strategic locations for returning or new rodents that may enter. You then need to wait a further 7-10 days from each sighting or noise. A rodent seen during daylight hours may often be one that has consumed bait, usually they appear to have no fear or are moving slowly. Usually the initial control may take 3-4 weeks depending on the infestation level

### Trapping

Installation of conventional snap traps can be an effective, but requires daily visits by law, to check remove and reset. It can be seen as cruel to a lot of the public as they may see dead or dying rodent on a trap. Usually death is quick due to shock as well. May be difficult to set traps in locations, and difficult to gauge how many needed.

### Dust

Dust or contact powder is usually only used in isolated areas such as burrows, cavities, and is not practical in the open or inside a building.

### Proofing

Whilst this is difficult, as a mouse can fit through a hole the size of a 5c piece, and a rat through a hole the size of 20c piece, some obvious holes such as brick missing a pipe has been removed, a gap under a door, these can all make it that much more difficult for rodent's to enter.

Cutting grass cleaning any rubbish piles, removing pet food after the primary pet has finished, can also help, eliminating breeding or nesting locations.

### Remove source of food

Ensure nothing is left out spillages are cleaned bins have lids and that food is in sealable containers, rodent proof cupboards, or refrigerator

Note to control rodents it often requires an integrated pest management approach, which may involve a combination of control proofing and hygiene.