

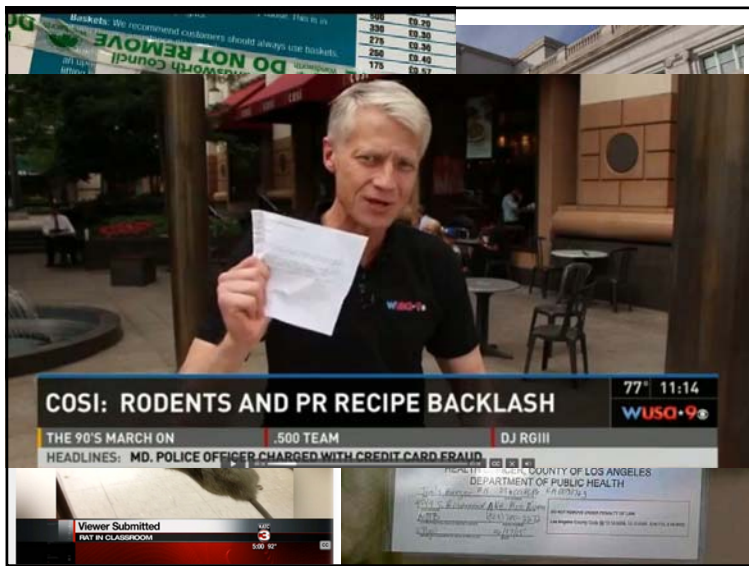


RODENTS

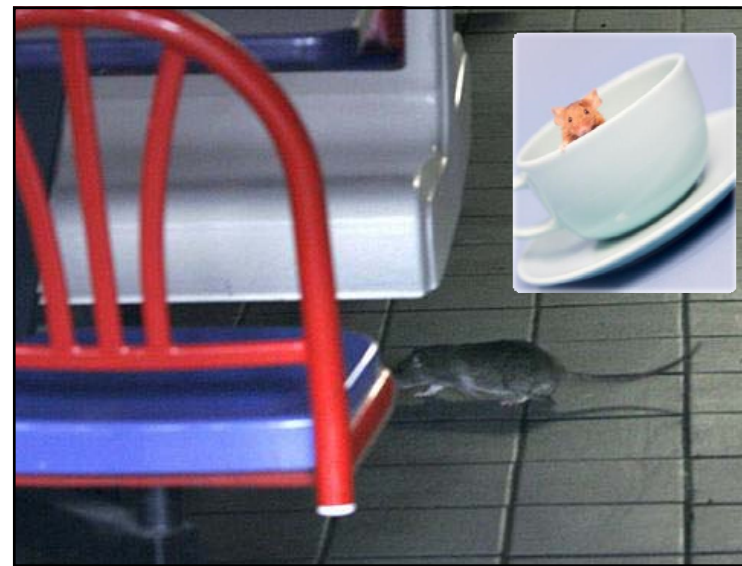
44% of all mammalian species are rodents



A composite image featuring a rat looking through a jagged hole in a white surface. Below the hole is a black keyhole. To the left, a smaller inset shows a mouse on a wooden surface.



A still from a news broadcast. A man with short grey hair, wearing a black polo shirt, is holding a white piece of paper. The background shows an outdoor dining area with tables and chairs. A menu board is visible in the upper left corner with items like '200 \$9.20', '275 \$9.50', '250 \$8.40', and '175 \$9.57'. A sign in the background says 'DO NOT REMOVE'. The news ticker at the bottom reads: 'COSI: RODENTS AND PR RECIPE BACKLASH', '77° 11:14', 'WUSA-9', 'THE 90'S MARCH ON', '.500 TEAM', 'DJ RGIll', and 'HEADLINES: MD, POLICE OFFICER CHARGED WITH CREDIT CARD FRAUD'. A small inset in the bottom left shows a mouse with the text 'Viewer Submitted' and 'MAY IN CLASSROOM'. Another inset in the bottom right shows a document from the 'COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'.





Homo sapiens !

12,000 – 15,000 rodenticide incidents per year

A collage of images including a group of diverse people, a warning sign with a red circle and slash over a silhouette of a person, and a yellow container of d-CON rodenticide with a pile of green bait pellets in front of it.

Two labels for Gopher Getter Type 1 Bait. The left label features a cartoon character and lists ingredients: Strychnine Alkaloid (0.50%) and Inert Ingredients (99.50%). The right label is a smaller version of the same product. A small inset image shows a gopher wearing a vest.

A photograph of 26 young girls, all dressed in identical black and pink outfits, arranged in a grid. The text "26 4 year-olds" is written in yellow at the bottom right.

RAT BITES

- Intangible cost of rat-associated injury and illness
- Over 10,000 rat bites per year in the U.S.
- Infants and defenseless adults



**Allergen issue
Asthma**



RODENT-BORNE DISEASES

RAT-BITE FEVER –transferred by the bite of a rat



- **LEPTOSPIROSIS** –direct or indirect contact with urine
- **SCRUB TYPHUS** - bite of mites living on rodents
- **MURINE TYPHUS FEVER** – rats are hosts of flea vectors
- **SALMONELLOSIS** –gastroenteritis pathogens spread through food or water contaminated with rodent feces
- **PLAGUE** and **HANTA VIRUS**





A few types of rodents

- Rats
- Mice
- Squirrels
- Chipmunks
- Woodchucks
- Voles
- Gophers



RECOGNIZING RAT AND MOUSE SIGNS

GNAWINGS:
Rat incisor teeth grow 4 to 6 inches a year

Must gnaw each day to keep their teeth short



ROOF RAT
(Rattus rattus)

- Smaller than Norway rat
- Agile climber
- Originated in tropical Asia where they ate mostly fruits and seeds



ROOF RAT

- Young, 6 -8 per litter
- 4 -6 litters per year
- Live ~ 1 year
- Range, 100 – 150 feet



- Indoors – attics, between floors and ceilings, in walls and enclosed spaces
- Outdoors – in trees and dense vine growth, can burrow

- **Food** – vegetables, fruits, cereal - require ½ to 1 oz dry food, more if moist
- **Water** –1 oz per day



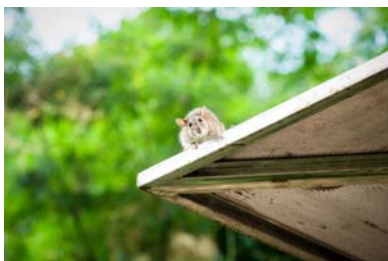
NORWAY RAT
(Rattus norvegicus)





NORWAY RAT

- Originated China, Japan, mainland Asia, India, and other Indo-Malayan countries
- Burrow, but can climb
- Large droppings, up to ¾ inch long
- Sexual maturity in 3 – 5 months
- Gestation period, 22 days
- 12 – 18 per litter
- 4 – 7 litters per year
- Life span about 1 year
- Range is about 100-450 feet



Outdoors – burrows in ground and under foundations, in rubbish, garbage dumps and sewers

Indoors – between floor and ceilings, in walls, enclosed spaces, shelving, appliances, piles of rubbish, and other spaces concealed from view

NORWAY RAT



NORWAY RAT

• **Food**

- Omnivorous historically
- Garbage, meat, fish, vegetable, fruit, and cereal baits are well accepted; daily requirement, $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 oz of dry food, more moist food




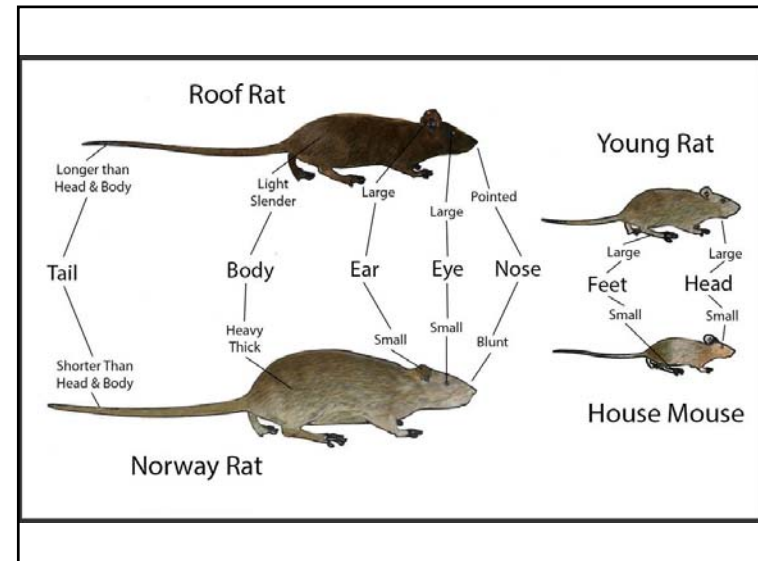
• **Water**

- $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 oz per day



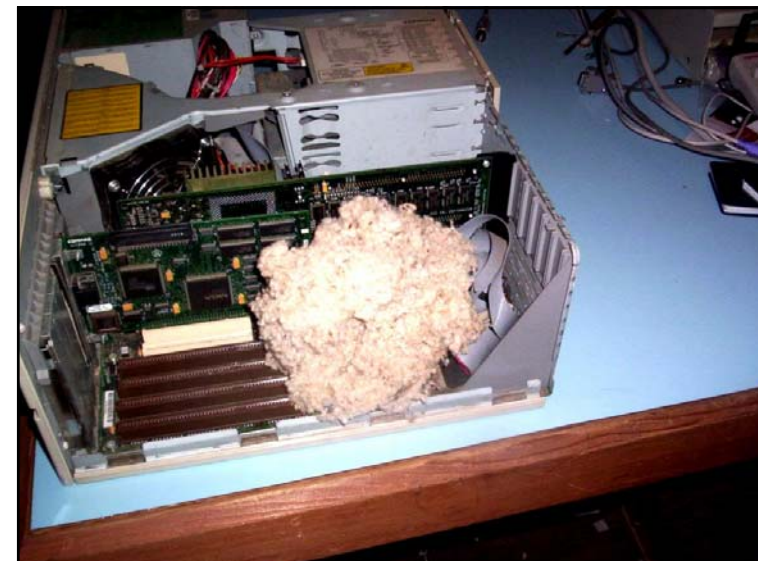
RATS CAN:

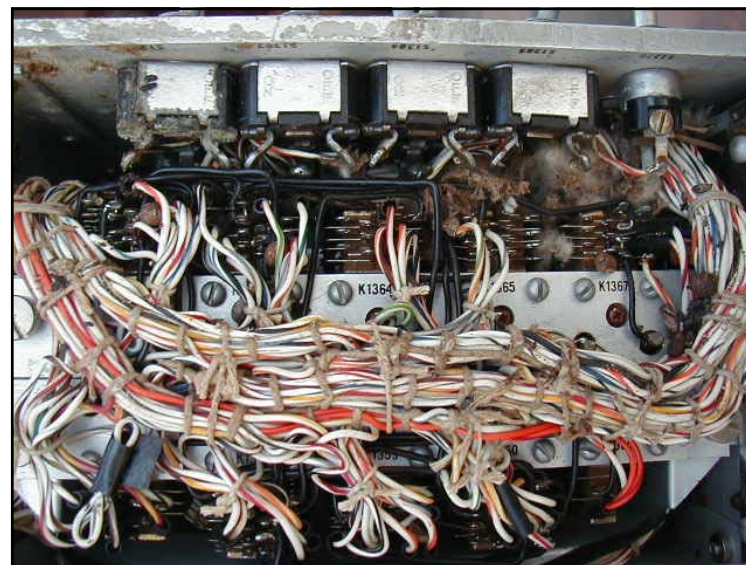
- Pass through quarter-sized opening (½")
- Use wires, conduits or pipes to gain access
- 180 fecal pellets/day
- Survive a 50' fall
- 13" reach
- 36" vertical jump
- Tread water 3 days
- Swim underwater for 30 sec.
- Swim 1 mile in open water
- Gnaw on wood, lead pipes, cinder blocks, asbestos, aluminum, sheet metal, glass, and sun-dried adobe

– Throughout the world

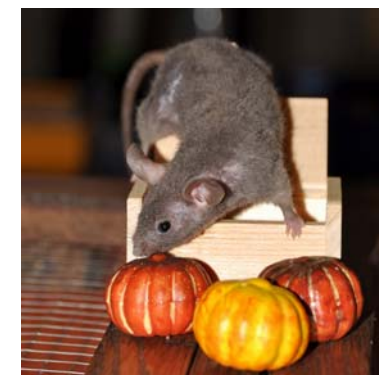
HOUSE MOUSE
(*Mus musculus*)




- Droppings: small, <math>< \frac{1}{4}</math> inch
- Sexual maturity: reached 1 ½ to 2 months after birth
- Young: 5 – 6 per litter
- Number of litters: <math>< 8</math> per year
- Length of life: <math>< 1</math> year

HOUSE MOUSE




HOUSE MOUSE

- **Food** - historically seed-feeders
- Cereal grained preferred, but most types of edible materials; a nibbler - daily requirement - 1/10th ounce
- **Water** - Can utilize metabolic water in food to survive




MOUSE FACTS

- Survive an 8' fall
- Runs at 12 ft /sec
- 50 fecal pellets/day
- 12" jump vertical
- Swim
- Resurface after being flushed down toilet
- Thrive in cold storage room 14F
- Enter structure with ¼" opening (dime)
- Eats 4 lbs of food and makes 18,000 fecal pellets / 6 mo



MOUSE FACTS

- Several hundreds to thousands of microdroplets of urine/day




GENERAL RODENT FACTS

- Poor vision, color blind
- Keen smell, taste, touch, hearing
- Mostly active evening, early morning
- Omnivores
- Hoarders
- Territorial
- Do not go beyond home range easily
- Provision nest with any soft material
- Reproductively prolific; may be pregnant while nursing pups
- Kinesthetic memory, orient via touch

VIBRISSAE (WHISKERS)



RECOGNIZING RAT AND MOUSE SIGNS

- **Visual sightings**
- **Rodent Sounds:**
High pitched squeaks
- **Rodent Odors:**
Odors produced from urine and body glands



RECOGNIZING RAT AND MOUSE SIGNS

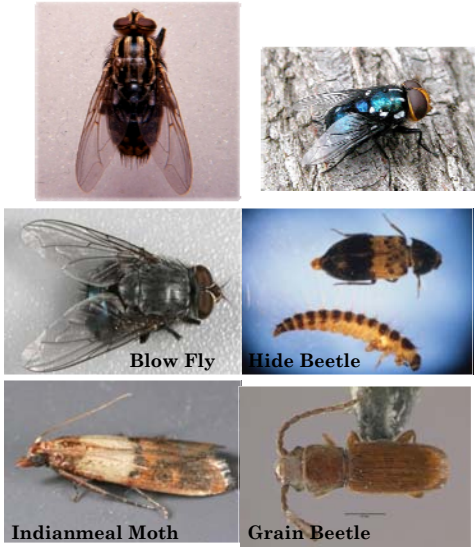
Rub Marks:
Dark markings rodents make with their bodies along runway walls



INDICATOR PESTS

Found near dead animals or trash

Found near grain or bait stored in walls




The images show: a housefly (top left), a blow fly (middle left, labeled "Blow Fly"), a hide beetle (top right, labeled "Hide Beetle"), an Indianmeal moth (bottom left, labeled "Indianmeal Moth"), and a grain beetle (bottom right, labeled "Grain Beetle").

Key Conditional Words for finding rats and mice in and around buildings:

- * Warmth
- * Near food
- * Stationary items
- * Let droppings be your roadmaps (trap placement)

Bobby Corrigan, RMC PMC ©

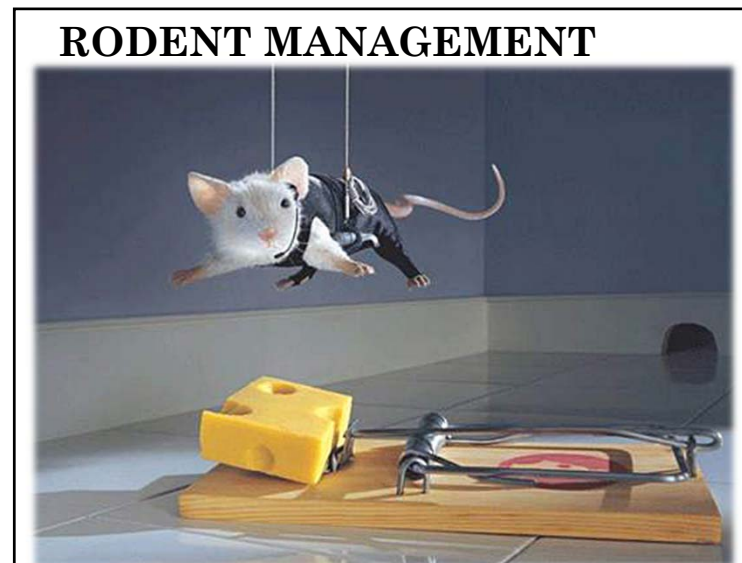
Evidence of Clutter Bugs



The images show: a room filled with cardboard boxes and other clutter (left), a closet packed with various items (top right), and a close-up of a mouse on a pile of fabric (bottom right).



The photograph shows a group of people, including a man in a suit and a man in a blue shirt, standing around a large black trash bin. There are cardboard boxes and other debris around the bin. A sign on the bin says "BETWEEN" and another sign on the bin says "Keep it Clean! Please do not litter.".



IMPORTANT - RODENT BAITING WITHOUT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS AND GOOD SANITATION WILL BE INEFFECTIVE

- Poisons and Baits
 - Multi-Dose Poisons
 - Single-Dose Poisons
 - Sterilants



- **EPA ban aluminum and magnesium phosphide pesticides** in residential areas, including homes, nursing homes, day care facilities, hospitals and schools, (except on school athletic fields)



<http://www.epa.gov/rodenticides/rodent-control-pesticide-safety-review>

- EPA changes Mouse and Rat Control Products
- Rodenticide products that reduce exposure to children, pets and wildlife



Rodenticides

- **First-generation anticoagulants:** warfarin, chlorophacinone and diphacinone
- Multiple-dose
- Inability to produce essential blood-clotting factors
- Shorter elimination half-life
- Less toxic



Rodenticides

- **Second-generation anticoagulants:** brodifacoum, bromadiolone, difenacoum, and difethialone
- Single-dose
- Used at lower doses due to higher toxicity
- Vitamin K1 antidote for both 1st and 2nd generation
- Not easily excreted
- May be stored in liver



Anticoagulants interfere with blood clotting, and death results from excessive bleeding – relatively humane

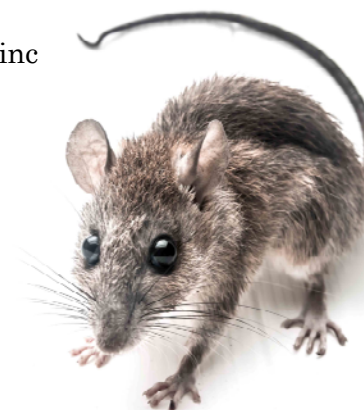
Second-generation anticoagulants are:

- Highly toxic, persist a long time in body tissues
- Designed to be toxic in a single feeding
- But time-to-death is several days, and rodents feed multiple times before death
- Carcasses contain residues that may be many times a lethal dose
- Predators and scavengers may die



Rodenticides

- **Non-anticoagulants:** bromethalin, cholecalciferol, zinc phosphide and strychnine



Non-anticoagulants:

- **Bromethalin** is a nerve toxicant that causes respiratory distress
- Very fast acting
- No antidote
- Highly toxic to some species
- Breakdown products are more toxic
- Single dose



Non-anticoagulants:

- **Cholecalciferol** - vitamin D3
- Causes renal failure
- Multiple-dose
- Time lag between exposure and signs of toxicity
- Few human poisonings, but some pet poisonings



Non-anticoagulants:

- **Zinc phosphide** causes liberation of toxic phosphine gas in the stomach
- Inhalation causes anxiousness, extreme difficulty breathing, and death
- Several human pediatric fatalities have occurred



Non-anticoagulants:

- **Strychnine** causes involuntary muscle spasms in both people and animals
- Death is caused by impaired breathing
- Alkaloid derived from seeds of the tree *Strychnos nux-vomica*



Sooooooo ultimately which will do the least harm to non-targets?

- None will do no harm
- How they are used will affect risk as much as what is used
- 1st generation anticoagulants used in locked, tethered bait stations with blocks secured onto inner pins



Revised Risk Mitigation Decision for Ten Rodenticides
<http://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2006-0955-0764>
 Restrictions on Rodenticide Products
<http://www.epa.gov/rodenticides/restrictions-rodenticide-products>

TYPES OF TRAPS

- Snap
- Metal lever
- Multi-catch
- Live
- Glue boards
- Electrocuting



PLACEMENT SPECIFICS - SNAP TRAPS

- Place so long axis is perpendicular to the travel route w/ trigger/bait pan across path
- 2 traps side by side ↑ chances of success
- 3 traps in a row – hard to hurdle
- 6 – 10' mice
- 20 – 30' rats
- Pre-bait traps



REMOVAL OF DEAD RODENTS FROM TRAPS

- Check traps regularly
- Spray dead rodents with a disinfectant
- Using heavy gloves, remove rodent from trap and place in double sealed bags
- Discard rodent in a sealed outdoor waste receptacle
- Disinfect gloves if they will be reused
- Decontaminate traps before reusing
- www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hanta/hps/index.htm

MY OPINION REGARDING GLUE TRAPS

- Can generate significant problems in occupied buildings
- Trap young mice primarily
- Cause trap shyness



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Integrated Pest Management:
Conducting Urban Rodent Surveys

PCT
Rodent CONTROL
A Practical Guide For Pest Management Professionals
ROBERT H. CORRIGAN

[HTTP://WWW.CDC.GOV/NCEH/EHS/DOCS/IPM_MANUAL.PDF](http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/docs/ipm_manual.pdf)

I'm telling you... the rodent was big!!