

If you would just seal up all the openings, you wouldn't have a mouse problem.

- Other presenters





Special thanks to Matthias Wandel @Matthiaswandel

Realistically:

- → No way to do that
- → No way to find everything
- \rightarrow Hard to get customer buy in
- → Doing it "right"







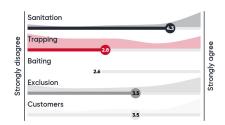


This leads us to trapping and baiting.





What's challenging about house mouse control?

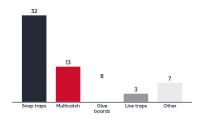




Talking Traps



What's your favorite or what do you use most?



Is there a difference between traps?

Where you use them
How they "fit"
Station vs. no-station
Trap vs. glue board
Snap vs. tin-cat
Snap trap size
"That's the way we've always done it"
Audited accounts
Durability







Location, location!



Where are the mice? What can physically fit?

Research on trapping

- $_{\textrm{\tiny 3}}$ Some mice repeatedly visited traps.
- → Others went more than 30 days before being caught.
- → Slightly more females were caught than males.
- → "Unduly large number of small mice failed to be caught."



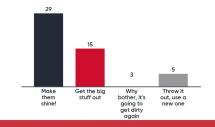


Numbers of long-distance and dispersal movements for different ages and sexes. Note that recaptures in the same trap (i.e. movements of 0 m) are included in the results.

Dispersal movements are those where an animal moved between subgroups. Where ages differed between two captures, the animal was placed in the class for its age at first capture.

		JUVENILE		ADULT		G	P
		MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	(d.f.=3)	
DISPERSAL MOVEMENT	Yes	16	9	30	15	9-93	0-019
	No	100	150	427	306		
RECAPTURE DISTANCE	>10m	18	15	45	24	5-79	0-122
	<10m	98	144	413	296		
RECAPTURE DISTANCE	>30m	7	6	8	7	6-42	0-093
	<30m	109	153	450	313		

To clean or not to clean...that is the question







Smell the love

- $_{\scriptscriptstyle 3}$ Males more likely to go to a dominant male scented trap (followed by clean).
- Territorial males mark at high frequency to advertise their aggressive dominance over other resident and intruder males.
- $_ o$ Will avoid predator feces smell and areas where their friends have been "scared".
- Mice avoided the human sweat and feces from cats and shrews, but were neutral toward the odor of dog feces.

It IS about the size!

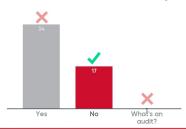
Mice preferred a smaller snap trap to a larger rat-sized snap trap.







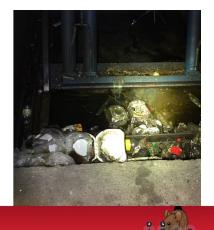
Tincats must be used in audited accounts on either side of every door.





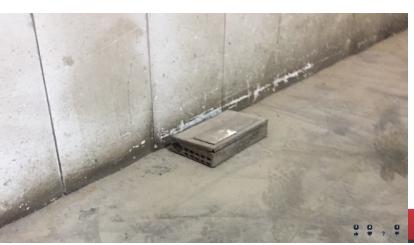
Factors:

- → Food
- → Shelter
- → Smells
- → LOCATION!

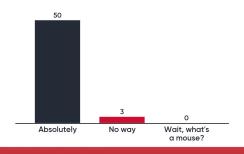








Mice are curious





Science Says: maybe not so much...



They prefer coverage and hiding spots

Argentina - M. musculus presence was closely associated with vegetation variables.

In three of four analyzed seasons, the house mouse presence was positively associated with high values of vegetation volume and negatively associated with traps located close to walls.

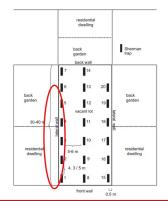
Vegetative and man-made corridor components influence the dispersal.

Mice spent more time hiding inside fake burrows than exploring

responded to the predator more by freezing or running immediately into the burrow.







Smells are important

- ightarrow Smells keep them in their territories.
- \rightarrow Smells keep others out.
- ightarrow No reason to be curious when you have marked your territory as "safe."











What do you bait your snap traps with? 107 responses



Hungry hungry house mice

Food preferences Curiosity factor Mommy Think about peanut butter





How far can a house mouse travel (feet)



How far WILL a house mouse go?

- \Rightarrow In a trial with all the food, water, and shelter they needed, average movement was 12ft.
- → Little curiosity!
- ightarrow Males traveled more, older individuals traveled more.









I caught them, why are there still issues?

Young are **very** uncurious. If adults have food, they won't go investigate. There are hiding spots they are using. Traps aren't in their territory.



Thanks to Bug Bully Rodent & Pest Control





Lessons learned

- → Don't count on curiosity
- → Traps have to be in the right spots
- \rightarrow Stop doing it the same old way
- → Stong sense of smell
- → Strong sense of territory



