

EDUCATIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE OF MULTIPLE CATCH TRAPS IN AND AROUND FOOD PLANTS AND OTHER COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

Interior trapping for rodent control is designed as a supplement and partner to tight sealing of the plant, and the exterior baiting and sanitation program. In many plants, there will be few, if any, rodents caught inside the plant and this is as it should be. Nevertheless, it would be irresponsible to fail to have protection against any rodents that might enter or be carried in with materials. Multiple catch traps also can be used outdoors around perimeters and on rooftops.

The incoming product inspectors must use flashlights and, if necessary, black lights to try to find any rodents hiding within a shipment. Rodents are more likely to enter with bagged material or boxed material that is "Chimney Packed" with a void in the middle. Such items must receive additional inspection.

The key entry points in most structures will be the fork lift ramp doors, rail dock doors or any other doors that are at ground level. Do not overlook penetration points for pipes and electrical wires. Traps should be placed indoors on either side of interior doors within 15 feet of the door. Place a second set of traps about 15 feet further into the plant to catch any mice that missed the initial traps. Traps should also be used outdoors on either side of the doorways to supplement the perimeter prevention program. These areas and trap placements should be highlighted on the plot plan.

The perimeter control program must include an absolute foliage-free barrier of at least 3 feet from the structure.

Review the entire facility for areas that mice favor. These areas include:

- Available food
- Available shelter
- Dark and quiet areas
- Proximity to entrances
- Areas where mice have been caught before
- Employee locker areas
- Sprinkler rooms
- Loading docks

There is no need to bait traps. The presence of shelter behind the opening is the attraction.

Placement of traps in food and non-food areas should be along the walls at intervals of 15 to 40 feet depending on probable infestations and availability of placement. Traps are needed regularly in these areas but the density and specific location will change to reflect conditions. Placing a glue trap in the catch chamber of the trap provides excellent monitoring for crawling and flying insects.

A record of regular trap positions should be recorded on a plot plan and should be continuously updated. Whenever a catch is made, a small red X should be placed on the plot plan. Over a period of a year or more, this simple visual record will show graphically where the most mice were caught. The reasons for the catches will normally be evident. These entry points should now be corrected. Clients are willing to spend whatever dollars are needed to correct a problem if they are convinced of the necessity.

PREPARATION OF NEW TRAPS:

- Inspect the new trap for any signs of obvious shipping damage.
- Check the tripping action* by winding the trap a few turns, then firmly tap the bottom of the trap. *(Excludes Pro-Ketch®)
- Attach service label or punch card where technicians will date, initial or punch as they service the traps.
- Assign a number to the trap as it is placed in the plant. This will correspond with the number on the plot plan. If it is a new installation, write the number on the plot plan.

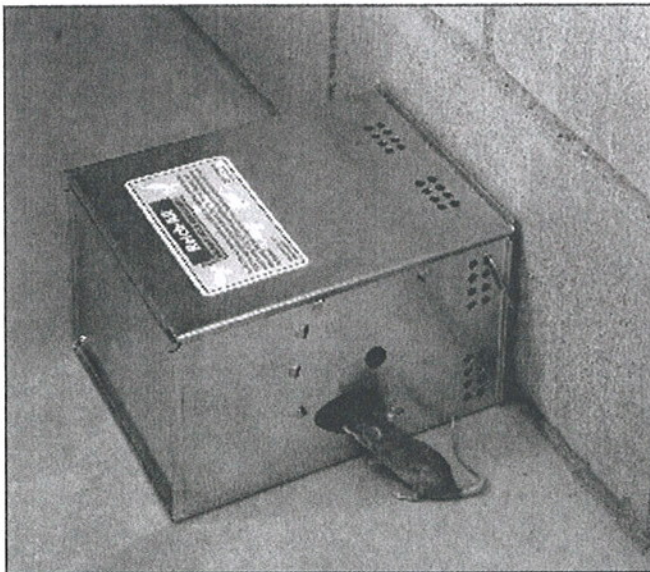
PRECAUTIONS FOR HANTAVIRUS:

1. Do not sweep or vacuum in areas where dead rodents are found.
2. Disinfect all rodents, rodent traps and the area where dead rodents are found. (1 ½ cups bleach per gallon of water for 5-10 minutes).
3. Protective clothing includes disposable suits, rubber gloves, hepa filter, respirator, boots and goggles.

PREPARING FOR SERVICE OF MULTIPLE CATCH TRAPS:

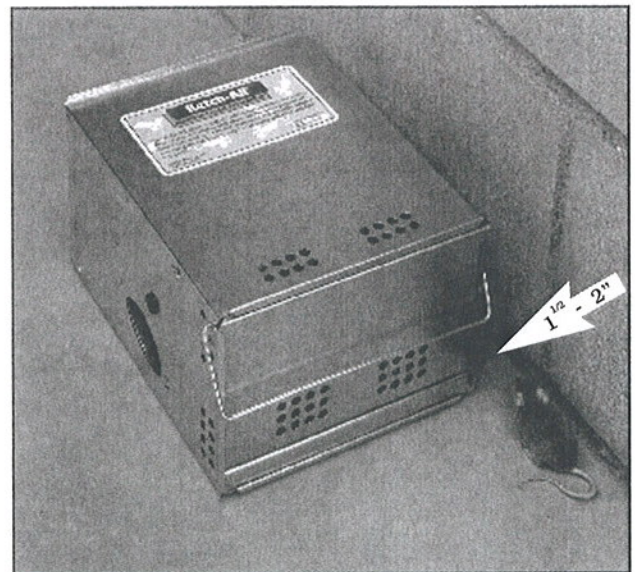
- The technician should have all necessary equipment before starting the service. This should include:
 - Rubber gloves to provide protection and to quickly wipe the dust off the top of the trap. New gloves should be worn daily.
 - A good bottle brush or similar brush to clean the inside of the trap.
 - Tools should include pliers, a putty knife, and a razor blade scraper, flashlight, knee pads and mineral oil or candle to lubricate the lid.
 - A container lined with a plastic bag in which to place any dead rodents and any other materials that require disposal.
 - NOTE: In areas where Hantavirus is suspected, all rodents must be treated with chlorine prior to disposal. Traps must also be disinfected.
 - Extra labels and at least one extra trap to replace any damaged traps. Store extra traps in the truck or at the facility to assure continuity of trapping program.

Photo A



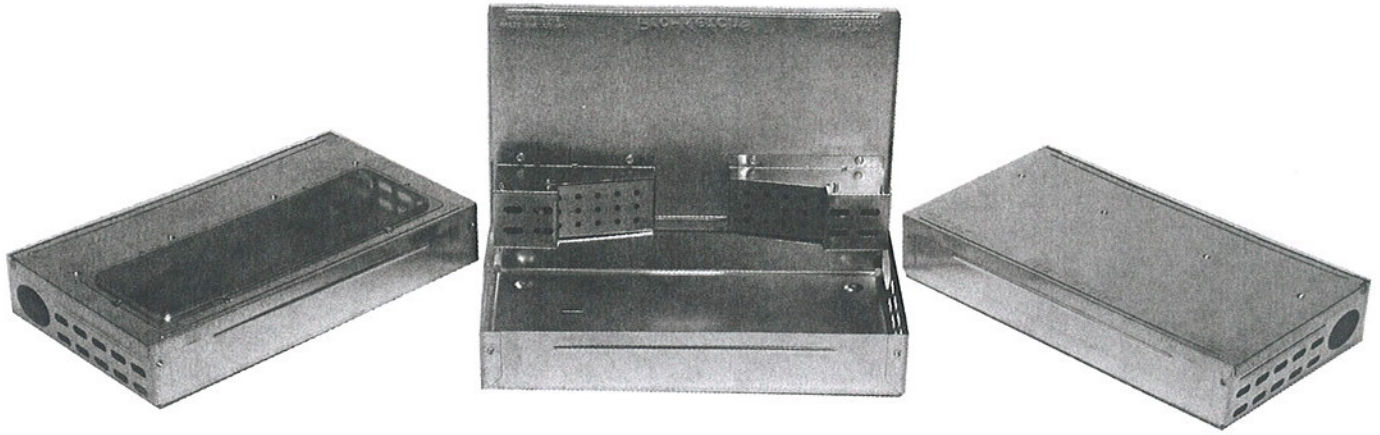
Perpendicular

Photo B



Parallel

The traps should interrupt the normal paths of a mouse as it enters the plant or as it goes from a shelter area to a nearby food source. Mice will normally travel along a wall or flat surface. Place traps with the catch chamber touching the wall (Photo A), or placed parallel to the wall and no more than two finger widths from the wall (Photo B). Placing the traps with the winding knob touching the wall is a good method of assuring the proper distance. Research has not shown a great deal of difference in either type of placement, but catches will be less if the trap is at a distance of several inches from the wall. (Pro-Ketch® should be placed flush and parallel to wall.)



ROUTINE SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE OF MULTIPLE CATCH TRAPS:

Check traps often enough that captured mice do not die and putrefy before they are found. Ideally they should be checked at least twice a week. This is often done with a weekly service by the pest control operator and one additional inspection by plant personnel. The inspection can be facilitated by the use of traps with either a clear view lid or a clear view end plate that permits checking without opening the trap.

- Using the plot plan, check for each trap by number and if any are missing, search the nearby area. Replace if not found, but keep track of areas where traps are repeatedly removed or damaged.
- Inspect the white line as you “run the trap line” for rodent droppings or stored product insects. Note any findings on your report and take appropriate further action such as searching nearby product for the source of the problem.
- Carefully check the trap before opening to see if any mice are captured. Opening the door without checking will permit the mice to escape. If a clear view lid or a clear view end plate is used it will be easy to see any captured mice. If all metal lids are used, shine your flashlight through the side perforations.
- Placement of glue traps in multiple catch traps provides better sanitation, ease of cleaning, greater protection from Hantavirus and a monitoring tool for crawling and flying insects.
- With a glue trap in place removing the dead mice becomes relatively easy and neat. Without a glue trap, a putty knife or a scraper may be needed.
- Live mice are more difficult to remove. The entire trap can be submerged in water to drown the mice. Many pest management professionals merely shake the trap hard enough to stun the mice so that they can be removed and disposed of in a number of ways.