

**KIWICARE®**

# Technical Sheet

## 1–2–3 Rodent Control

How to Control Rats and Mice in and Around Buildings



# Kiwicare 1-2-3 Rodent Control

## Control of:

- Roof rats (aka ship rats, black rats, bush rats)
- Norway rats (aka brown rats, sewer rats, water rats)
- House mouse (aka field mouse)

## Directions

### For all pest rodents

1. **Prevent** – Stop rats and mice entering your buildings.  
Rats and mice can squeeze through gaps that they can get their head through. This can be as narrow as a pencil. Look around your buildings and seal gaps under doors, around pipes and cables, broken vents, etc.  
Rats and mice are good climbers and often enter at eaves, so cut vegetation away from the eaves and roof. Climbers should be cut well below eaves and overhanging trees should be cut back 2 metres from the roof.  
Restrict food sources that may attract rats and mice. Pick up fallen fruit in the garden, remove pet food bowls after pets have fed, sweep up spills in kitchens and put food in sealed containers or refrigerators, do not leave seeds exposed in sheds and garages, etc.



2. **Control** – If rats or mice have already gained entry or as a preventative measure in autumn:
  - a. Place baits\* under cover, along walls or rafters and in dark sheltered areas where there are signs of rodent activity.
  - b. For mice — use single bait blocks 5 m apart, or 2 m apart for high infestations.
  - c. For rats — use 1 to 3 blocks 10 m apart, or 5 m apart for high infestations.
  - d. In dry areas where other food is not limited [NO Rats & Mice Dual Action Bait & Tracking Powder](#) should be sprinkled where rodents run.
  - e. For effective control continue to replace eaten bait until feeding ceases. Once rodent activity has ceased ensure untaken baits are removed and safely disposed of.
  - f. NOTE: One feed may be sufficient to kill a rat or mouse but they will continue to eat bait. It may take up to 2 weeks to control a significant rodent problem.
  - g. **Bait Stations** - Use [Bait Stations](#) to keep baits secure:
    - Stations are lockable and refillable.
    - Protect pets and children from access to bait.
    - Protect bait from moisture and contamination.
    - Provide enclosed space where rodents feel comfortable and will consume more bait.
    - Can be used indoors and outdoors.



3. **Clean and check** – Once an infestation has been eradicated:  
 Bag and dispose of dead rodents. Clean up droppings. Wipe down surfaces where rodents have run.  
 Bag and dispose of used bait.  
 Check for potential rodent entry points and seal these.



\*NO Rats & Mice baits – [NO Rats & Mice One Feed](#) or [NO Rats & Mice Weatherproof Bait Blocks](#).

## For Best Results

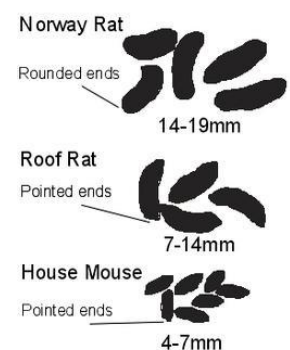
- Check and replenish bait stations and baiting points regularly. If all bait has been eaten replace it with double the bait used previously; bait should always be available to the rodents.
- Wear gloves when handling rodenticide baits and bait stations; gloves protect the wearers and prevent baits from acquiring human scent which might deter rodents.

## Caution

- By law rodenticides must only be used in bait stations and as specified on the label. A bait station is defined as “A rigid, reusable device or container designed or adapted to physically contain baits in such a way as to allow unrestricted access by target pests while preventing or minimising spillage of bait and access of off-target species. Also to protect baits from the elements and extend their usable life.” This could include a roof void.

## About Rats and Mice

- **Why Get Rid of Them?**
  - **They transmit disease.** E.g. Move from sewers to food preparation and storage areas. Continually dribble urine and leave droppings where they travel.
  - **They cause electrical shorting, fires, floods and structural damage** - the front incisor teeth of rodents are continually growing so they will gnaw cables, pipes and timbers to keep their teeth worn down.
- What to look for?
  - **See them:**
    - Roof Rat – tail longer than body, body up to 225 mm long.
    - Norway Rat – tail shorter than body, body up to 250 mm long.
    - House Mouse – tail about same length as body, body up to 115 mm long.
    - Fur colour is not a distinguishing feature.
  - **Find droppings:**
    - Norway rat – 14-19 mm long with rounded ends.
    - Roof rat – 7-14 mm long with pointed ends.
    - House Mouse – 4-7 mm long with pointed ends.
  - **Hear them:**
    - Usually at night.
    - (If sounds heard in eaves at dusk and dawn it is likely to be birds)
    - Ceilings amplify sound. Noises heard at night are amplified in our minds.
    - Mice make a scurrying sound in which paws follow each other so quickly it is very difficult to



separate them, so the sound is almost continuous.

The sound of rats running displays a more definite sound of their individual paws.

○ **Damage:**

Rats and mice have incisor teeth that are continually growing.

The teeth have hard enamel on the front surface and softer dentine behind. Rats and mice gnaw things other than food to keep their teeth worn down and sharp.

They often choose to gnaw wiring, plumbing, joists and stored items.

This can cause electrical shorting, fire, leaks, and structural damage.

**Other useful knowledge:**

- Mice are nibble feeders, they eat a little and move on. So place many small amounts of bait and many traps.
- Rats will stop and feed for longer. Roof rats store food and will take bait away if they can so fix baits in place.
- Rats and mice tend to be active at night. They will venture out during the day if they are under competitive pressure to find food or a mate. This means if rodents are seen during the day it suggests a large population.
- Rodents are commensal – live with humans in our homes and buildings.
- Norway rats are common in built up areas as they use sewers and other underground passages.
- Roof rats are very agile - live in high places such as roof voids and trees in parks.
- Mice are the most likely to be seen in human occupied parts of buildings and where food is stored (e.g. pantries).
- Roof rats are much more common in and near rural bush.
- Norway rats are less common in rural situations and tend to be associated with farm buildings.
- Mice in rural situations (sometimes called field mice) tend to be associated with grassland and bush areas.
- Rodents prefer to stay under cover and are reluctant to move into open spaces. They stay close to walls and upright surfaces. Bait stations and traps should be placed where rodents will encounter them and feel safe.
- Rats and mice follow the same paths routinely. They have very good spatial awareness and have a 'map' of their environment in their brain. They have poor eyesight but can find their way by memory, touch and smell. A path or tunnel (run) will be formed through vegetation outdoors.
- What are the best traps? - Snap traps with strong springs are most effective and humane. They should have a platform trigger. Set correctly perpendicular to a wall or other place rodents are running it is not necessary to use bait. If bait is used the best are peanut butter or chocolate.
- For rodent removal it is good practice to use traps in conjunction with rodenticides.



## NO Rats & Mice One Feed Blocks

One feed is all they need.

- Indoor and outdoor use.
- Formulated to withstand moisture, damp and heat.
- Hole for fixing rodenticide in place.
- Octagonal shape gives rodents edges to get their teeth into.
- Contains non-target species deterrent



### BAITING STRATEGY

- 1) Eliminate as many alternative food sources as possible.
- 2) Place baits under cover, along walls or rafters and in dark sheltered areas where there are signs of rodent activity.
- 3) **For mice** — use single bait blocks 5 m apart, or 2 m apart for high infestations.
- 4) **For rats** — use 1 to 3 blocks 10 m apart, or 5 m apart for high infestations.
- 5) For effective control continue to replace eaten bait until feeding ceases. Once rodent activity has ceased ensure untaken baits are removed and safely disposed of.
- 6) NOTE: One Feed is sufficient to kill a rat or mouse but they will continue to eat bait.
- 7) It may take up to 2 weeks to control a significant rodent problem.

### ACTIVE INGREDIENTS

0.05 g/kg Brodifacoum and 0.01 g/kg bittering agent Denatonium Benzoate in the form of a bait. **ANTIDOTE** - Vitamin K.

### TIPS

- Use in a Kiwicare bait station.
- Brodifacoum is a second generation anti-coagulant rodenticide (SGAR) bait and as such is faster acting and requires less bait to be consumed by rodents for control. It is therefore important that baits are placed where non-target animals are not able to access the bait.

### AVAILABLE AS

100 g, 160 g, 400 g, 1 kg, 3 kg

## NO Rats and Mice Bait Blocks

Highly effective, indoor and outdoor control of rats and mice.

- Indoor and outdoor rodent control.
- Weatherproof rodenticide for damp areas.
- Highly palatable to rodents for more effective control.
- Low eco-toxicity.



### DIRECTIONS

- 1) Place bait blocks in dry, sheltered and secluded areas where rats and mice have been feeding or travelling, preferably where rodents can eat without being disturbed.
- 2) A covered Kiwicare bait station is a great option.
- 3) Check bait daily and continue to top up until control has been achieved.

### ACTIVE INGREDIENTS

0.5g/kg Coumatetralyl in the form of bait. **ANTIDOTE** - Vitamin K.

### TIPS

Coumatetralyl is a first generation anti-coagulant rodenticide (FGAR) bait and as such is slower acting and requires more bait to be consumed by rodents for control and is less of a risk to non-target and scavenging

animals than second generation baits (SGARs). It is still important to ensure baits are placed where non-target animals are not able to access the bait.

**AVAILABLE AS**

160 g, 480 g

## NO Rats and Mice Dual Action Bait & Powder

Dual action rodenticide for effective indoor rodent control.

- Highly palatable bait that is eaten by rats and mice.
- Plus powder that clings to fur and is ingested during grooming.
- For use indoors - very effective in dry areas.
- Low eco-toxicity.



**DIRECTIONS**

- 1) Sprinkle bait and powder in dry, sheltered, secluded areas such as roof spaces where rats and mice are travelling or place bait in inverted lids or containers.
- 2) Place where there is evidence rat or mice activity.
- 3) Check bait daily and continue to top up until control has been achieved.

**ACTIVE INGREDIENTS**

0.5g/L Coumatetralyl in the form of bait. **ANTIDOTE** - Vitamin K.

**AVAILABLE AS**

200 g, 375 g

## NO Rats & Mice One Feed Bait Stations

Bait Stations to keep baits secure and dry:

- Lockable and refillable station.
- Protects pets and children from access to bait.
- Protects bait from moisture and contamination.
- Provides enclosed space where rodents feel comfortable and will consume more bait.
- Can be used indoors and outdoors.

**TIPS**

- Inspect baits at least every 7 days.
- Continue to replace baits, until feeding ceases.



### NO Rats One Feed Bait Station

Rat Bait Station to keep baits secure and dry.

- Contains 100 g pouch (5 blocks) of NO Rats & Mice One Feed Blocks.

### NO Mice One Feed Bait Station

Mice Bait Station to keep baits secure and dry.

- Prefilled and ready to use with 1 NO Rats & Mice One Feed Block.



# Video Training

Have a look at our training videos on rodent control:

[kiwicare.co.nz/help/rodent-control](http://kiwicare.co.nz/help/rodent-control)



- 1) Identifying Rodents;
- 2) Choosing the best solution;
- 3) How to use the NO Rats and NO Mice bait stations;
- 4) Tips and tricks for placing rodent baits;
- 5) Disposing of Rodents & Rodenticide Safety;
- 6) Preventing Rodents.

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# Kiwicare.co.nz

For information, advice and our interactive  
problem solver

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