

The House Mouse

TRULY ON

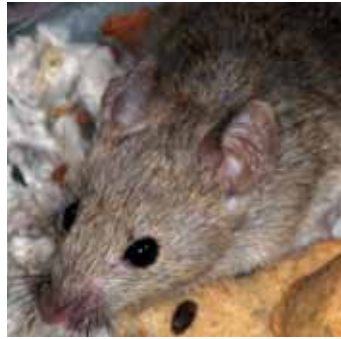


The house mouse can be an elusive little creature. While an excellent climber, it generally wanders no more than three metres from its nest. They are very small, weighing up to 30 grams, with colour variations from black to white to brown. The hairless tail is longer than length of head and body together. The mouse can jump up to 30 cm.

The average life span is one year and can have a litter every 28 days with 4-7 pups per litter. Mice eat almost anything, but prefer seeds, cereals and dry pet food. They require little water as it synthesizes moisture from foods. Gnawing behavior can damage electrical wiring, wood posts and gas/sewer lines, etc. Its skeletal structure can fold and bend its body to fit through an opening as small as 6 mm. Generally it seeks out refuge during



the fall and winter, when shelter from cold is critical and food is less abundant. Nests in walls, cabinets, appliances, attics and boxes. Signs of infestation of this nocturnal creature are: gnawing damage, gnawing sounds (especially at night), droppings, evidence of nesting materials and actual sightings of rodent. Contamination of food and all contact surfaces is caused by its incessant urination (no bladder control) and defecation.



Primary step is exclusion or preventing rodent from entering the structure by screening and otherwise eliminating all possible entry points. Rodents already inside structure are eliminated through mechanical trapping. Baits and other rodenticides are not used inside the structure. If the home owner minimizes conditions that attract rodents by disposing of debris on site, eliminating weeds and trimming overgrown vegetation, the success of control will be better. Securing food supplies in glass bins or other types of containers with secure tops and eliminating nesting materials will also help to control the rodent.

Ask your local Truly Nolen expert for the best method of treatment for your home.

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