# **Trapping Commensal Rodents**

Pest

# **Characteristics**

### **Droppings**

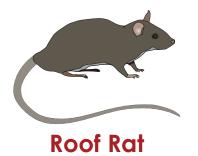
#### **Trapping Tips**

Tail: Shorter than head and body

Ears: Small
Eyes: Small
Nose: Blunt
Weight: 7-18 oz.



Shape: Blunt Avg. length: 3/4" Place traps close to walls, behind objects, and in dark corners.



**Norway Rat** 

Tail: Longer than head and body

Ears: Large Eyes: Large Nose: Pointed Weight: 5-10 oz.



Shape: Pointed Avg. length: 1/2" Place traps off the ground on ledges, shelves, branches, pipes, in attics, or garage rafters.



Body Shape: Round

Head size: Small

Feet: Small Snout: Pointed Weight: 0.5 oz.



Shape: Pointed Avg. length: 1/4" Place traps close to walls, behind objects, or in areas where there is evidence of mouse activity.

\* Young rats, which are sometimes mistaken for mice, have larger heads and feet relative to their body



# **Pre-Baiting Traps**

Rats tend to avoid new objects in their environment. Pre-baiting traps increases the effectiveness of trapping by combating this behavior. Pre-baiting traps is the process of placing a baited trap without setting it. Repeat this process a few times until the rodent becomes familiar with the trap. Then set the trap. Possible baits include: Chocolate syrup, dried food, nutmeats, or bacon.



# Placing Traps Out of Reach

To prevent children and pets from gaining access, place traps in tamper-resistant bait boxes. The U.S. EPA has criteria listed for tamper-resistant bait boxes that can be found on Pesticide Registration {PR} Notice 94-7.

#### **IPM Tips!**

- Seal gaps that are 1/4" wide or larger to exclude rodents from indoor areas.
- Set traps in pairs parallel to the wall when possible to increase chances of trapping.





