

COMPLEX TRAPPING SITES

UNDERSTAND WHY

When it comes to domestic situations, some trapping sites are more complex than others and require you to do some further analysis to ensure you get success with your traps. This section covers off understanding rats, how to analyse your site and steps toward success.

RODENT BEHAVIOUR

Sense of smell

Rats have an excellent sense of smell. They can analyse the nutritional content of food determining fat, protein and carbohydrate composition.

Learning about new food sources

Rats can take time to “cotton-on” to a new food source. When they encounter a new food source they taste a small amount and then go away to see if it makes them feel sick. They repeat this process until they’ve decided the new food source can be trusted.

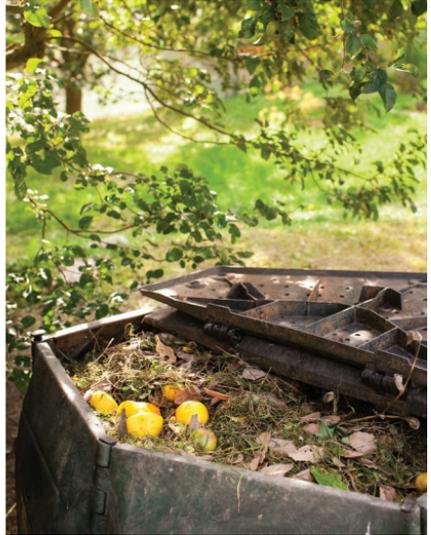
Food preference

It follows that once rats have a trusted food source, it takes some effort to get them to try something new. It’s a bit like when you want fish ‘n’ chips on a Friday night... you’re going to go past the burger bar and the pizza restaurant.

Social nature

Another thing about rats is that they’re social. When they meet, they touch noses and in doing so they use that excellent smell sense to see what their companion has been eating lately.

All of these traits make rats very successful at establishing themselves.



ANALYSING YOUR SITE

We humans create great habitat for rats – in fact, wherever there are humans, there are rats. Having taken in the behavioural information above, you need to think about the habitat you have created for rats.

Food competition

Food competition is the biggest barrier to success. Things like compost bins, dog biscuit bags, food stores and poultry feeders all provide excellent food sources for rats.

Thinking like a rat

When you have these situations you have to disrupt their routine in order to raise your prospect of success.

STEPS TO TAKE

Ask yourself the following and take affirmative action

1. Do I have a constantly available food source?
2. Can I better secure or eliminate the food source?
3. Can I shift that food source to another location?
4. Can I temporarily stop the food source? In the case of compost bins get a large bucket and store your new compost in it elsewhere for 3 weeks. They then search for new foods.
5. Is the food source seasonal? In this case then it's just a matter of time before the food source ceases and the rats begin to look for something else. Because you have Goodnature A24s in place they're constantly available to act.

Rodent Detectors

Remember, a rat lives in a dangerous world and will only investigate a new food source when they feel safe to do so. It's an absolute must to use your Goodnature Rodent Detector Cards to detect the best place to put your trap – not (as some people think) to detect whether or not you have rats! Refer to Page 7 for more information.

Broad pre-feeding of your site

Use Goodnature's 250 g Chocolate Formula for rats to pre-feed the site. Put up to a dozen pea-sized dabs of lure at ground level within a 20 m radius of your trapping site. This helps to sign post the new food source. The knowledge of the new food source causes the rats to search for it... and that's when they'll find it in your Goodnature A24s.

