



## **Fact File - Rodents**

Rodents have lived alongside man for well over 300 million years and have survived all natural disasters that the world has incurred over that time; they are a hardy survivor. They are nocturnal and opportunistic feeders and can transmit diseases and bacteria pathogens, such as salmonella, to humans. Rodents can also cause skin irritations, as well as allergens and breathing difficulties. They are also responsible for causing significant damage to buildings and infrastructure as they chew through pipes and electrical wiring. This creates a significant risk of flood and fires within buildings.

In New Zealand we generally encounter Norway Rats (*Rattus Norvegicus*), Roof Rats (*Rattus Rattus*), and Pacific Rats, as well as Mice - *Mus Musculus*.

Rats are considered mature in three to four months; whereas mice are mature in six weeks. Rats and mice produce up to ten babies each litter and can have between six to ten litters every year. The reproduction rate is startling if control is not put in place.

### **How we treat rodents**

All species require similar treatment e.g. an external and internal baiting programme with anticoagulant rodenticides using tamper proof bait stations. Anticoagulant rodenticide reduces the blood's ability to clot, causing an internal haemorrhage.

The application of tracking powder can also be used, in addition to various non-chemical options such as the eMitter system, traps and glue boards.

Treatments will be applied in areas that rodents often frequent. Alternative treatment options may be used if your technician feels that it is unsafe to enter any area (e.g. a ceiling cavity).

Our technicians will not return to your property to remove rodents after they have died. Once a rodent has eaten a lethal dose of bait, they often leave the property in search of water.

### **Rodenticides are harmful to humans and lethal to dogs - THE ANTIDOTE IS VITAMIN K1.**

**If you suspect that your dog has eaten bait, immediately take your animal to the nearest vet practice. Inform staff that Vitamin K1 is required urgently.**

**Take anyone who may have consumed bait immediately to the nearest medical centre, or call the National Poisons 24-hour free phone 0800 764 766.**



## Pre and Post Treatment Guide

It is important that your technician has easy and safe access to all entry points such as ceiling cavities, cupboards, doorways, windows and skirting boards.

If you have small children and/or animals on your property, you **must** inform our office when you book your treatment. While tamper proof bait stations are used, we can't guarantee that children or animals – specifically dogs – won't break/shake the station to access the bait. If you are concerned, please talk to our office about alternative treatment options.

### After your pest control treatment

- Do not touch any installed traps or bait
- If you suspect additional bait is required, call our office.

If non-bait treatment was applied, we will advise you of specific after care requirements.

### To prevent further infestations

There is no such thing as an invisible barrier to stop rodents from coming inside. We view pest control as a partnership between our qualified technicians and you, the property owner/tenant. Good sanitation and hygiene, together with an effective pest control programme can reduce infestation.

While your technician will tell you what specific rodent proofing you must carry out (e.g. covering located entry points), we also recommend that you:

- Clean your kitchen and food preparation areas every day
- Remove rubbish and food scraps every day – dispose of in sealed bags
- Clean behind the fridge and oven (at least every 1-3 months)
- Regularly clean kitchen cupboards that are used to store food (at least every 1-2 months)
- Always keep food stored in air tight containers (e.g. flour, rice, spices, pasta, fruit and vegetables)
- Clean pet food bowls after every use
- Trim vegetation (e.g. overhanging trees) around the building
- Ensure vegetation (e.g. garden waste or compost) is removed from your property.

### Our products

We offer a 100% guarantee on the professional service and application of our products. We use commercial pest control products that are approved by New Zealand's [Environmental Protection Agency](#). There is no guarantee for a single rodent treatment. We offer a guarantee if we are treating your premises every three months or as recommended by your technician. The product remains effective for 6 – 12 months provided it is not removed.

With heavy infestations rodents may eat all the bait quickly; in this case more than one treatment may be required for ongoing control.

**If you have any questions or concerns regarding your treatment, contact us:**

**T: 0800TOAJET or E [info@ajetservices.co.nz](mailto:info@ajetservices.co.nz).**