



Ministry of Industry Investment & Commerce

Jamaica's **Business** Ministry



**Food Storage and Prevention
of Infestation Division**
Ensuring Safety and Wholesomeness

Rat Alert

Where to look for rats

- In heavy forested areas, excessively bushy areas.
- In areas where vehicles, appliances and furniture are stored
- In areas with excess garbage, unwanted materials including lumber and scrap metals.
- In burrows (holes) in the ground and under buildings, sewers and drains.
- In areas where access to food is possible

Inside they may be found:

- In the insulation of walls or ceilings
- Behind or under cupboards, counters, stoves, refrigerators, shower stalls and other large appliances
- Wherever things are stored in boxes, paper or cloth and undisturbed

SIGNS OF RAT ACTIVITY/PRESENCE

- Filth (faeces)
- Bite marks on food or building structures
- Rat holes (burrows in the earth)
- Urine smell



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CONTROL MEASURES

- Remove all debris and unwanted items from premises
- Food sources must be made unavailable
- Properly cover garbage bins and empty them regularly
- Keep vegetation low
- Trim overhanging tree branches from buildings
- Keep all plants two feet away from buildings

- Completely block all unnecessary holes in buildings
- Mesh all other openings with 1/4 inch spacing
- Place metal sheet (kick plates) on the bottom of wooden doors

- Rat traps
- Glue traps
- Cages

- Rat poisons (i.e. rodenticides)

