

## CONTROL MEASURES

Rats may be controlled through sanitation, proofing and non-chemical and chemical measures.

### Sanitation

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

### Proofing

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

### Non-chemical

- Ø Rat traps
- Ø Glue traps
- Ø Cages

### Chemical

- Ø Rat poisons (rodenticides)

Only use FSPID approved rodenticides when treating food and food-related areas.

***CATS MUST NOT BE USED AS A MEANS OF DETERRING RATS FROM FOOD AND FOOD-RELATED AREAS.***



*For further information please contact*

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**Food Storage &  
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Infestation Division**  
*Ensuring Safety & Wholesomeness*

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# BEWARE OF RATS!!!



# Overview

RATS are among the most dangerous pests in the world. They carry diseases, cause structural damage and also great loss of food!

## WHERE DO RATS LIVE?

Outside they may be found:

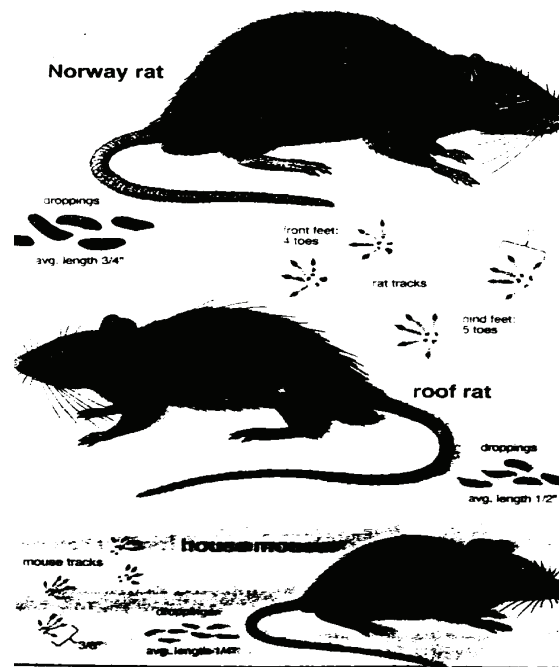
- Under wood piles or lumber that is not being used often
- In bushes, vines and in tall grasses that are not trimmed or cut back
- Under rocks in the garden
- In vehicles, appliances and furniture
- In and around trash and garbage that has been left on the ground
- In burrows (holes) in the ground and under buildings
- In trees

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)
- Footprints in dust
- Urine smell



Rats are shy and normally feed at night. They are afraid of new objects and tend to run along the bottom of walls, sometimes leaving dirty marks from their greasy fur.

## PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERNS



Rats can spread several diseases that can even cause **DEATH**.

This results from them moving and living in sewers, garbage and other dirty places and then contaminating food or infecting persons directly.

Diseases can be passed on through rat bites or their fleas and also through the contamination of food or food areas by the filth, urine and hair.

Some illnesses which rats spread:

- leptospirosis
- plague
- rat bite fever
- haemorrhagic fever