

NEWS FLASH!! ALL PMA COURSES HAVE RECENTLY BEEN UPGRADED FROM NQF 2 TO NQF 4



TIPS FOR INDUSTRY CONSULTANTS



BAITING AND TRAPPING RODENTS

Dr Bobby Corrigan is widely recognised as the pest control industry's premier rodent guru. At NPMA's recent Eastern conference in Atlantic City, he offered some tips and words of wisdom.

Locating your rodent bait boxes properly is crucial to success. Corrigan says that bait boxes just 3 metres off of normal, marked rodent pathways may go unnoticed and unvisited. Try to identify rodent runways and place your bait boxes there.

You can "jump start" activity at your bait stations by adding familiar enticements that will draw rodents. Add food lures from the nearby area like empty food wrappers, or smear a bit of food on the outside of the station (only for non-food facilities). Scattering rodent droppings around the outside of the station may attract rodents to the station. Likewise, scoop a bit of soil from the main opening of nearby burrows and place it around the entrance of the bait station as familiar odours act as an enticement to draw other rodents.

Want to know what happens when your bait boxes run out of bait? They turn into nest boxes. Ever found one of your boxes stuffed full of paper trash? Maybe you blamed local kids. Corrigan says rodents will actually stuff bait boxes with papers, paper bags, and other trash. They will put it in behind them to plug the openings and drafts and turn the bait box into a nest box.

If you are using rodent glue boards and you find pups or very young rodents caught on a board, Corrigan says that board is close to the nest since pups don't travel far.

And finally, " The future great PMPs will not be those who are best at using traps, baits, or sprays, but rather those who are best at keen observation, source finding, analysing each (unique) pest situation, and keeping cutting-edge current. In the pest management industry, this is pure business efficiency."

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