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Of mice & men

Mice

Pest Control Services

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Mice

Characteristics

The house mouse (*Mus musculus*) weighs less than 25g and is approximately 7-9 cm in length. The fur is grey-brown, with a slightly lighter underside.

Mice are colour blind and sight plays only a minor role compared with other senses. They have however an acute sense of hearing and are particularly sensitive to any sudden noises.

Where to find mice

The house mouse is common in urban and rural areas all over Britain. Although mainly a house dweller, it may live outdoors for part or all of the year. It is not found in sewers. When living outdoors, or where there is no other hiding place, house mice will burrow in soil. Mice are good climbers, and can climb vertical walls if they are sufficiently rough.

Problems caused by mice

Mice are considered pests because of the adverse effects they produce. Mice are known carriers of a number of diseases transmissible to humans. They also contaminate foodstuffs and cause damage by gnawing.



Life Cycle

Mice breed efficiently and large infestations can develop very quickly from a single pair.

Conditions that suit rapid population growth are warm temperatures, surplus food and water, and undisturbed cover for rearing young and escaping from enemies. The female mouse is capable of reproducing at the age of about 12 weeks, and can give birth to litters of 5 or 6 babies every 20 days, although an average of only 5 – 10 litters a year is normally produced.

Control

To prevent infestations, ensure buildings are in good repair, for example sealing up gaps around pipes going through walls, and repairing broken air bricks. Doors and windows should be close fitting. Avoid leaving excess food out for birds and other animals. Make sure waste is properly stored and disposed of.

Services we Provide:

- Treatments using rodenticides and trapping
- Proofing works to prevent mice entering your premises

Please contact us for further information on treatments and current charges

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