

# RODENT: TRANSMITTING DISEASES

Rats transmit more than 60 types of diseases.



1.



Rats carry the agent of the disease.

2.

They disseminate it in the environment when urinating.



3.

People get sick and may die once they get infested following contact with contaminated water or humid soil.



4.

## Rat Fever

Symptoms:

- Joint and Muscle Pain
- Fever
- Vomiting
- Headache
- Rigors



Rat Bite Fever gets transmitted to humans from rats when they bite or scratch you.

5.

Do you want to know more about rodents and how to manage them? Reach out to:



9051473083 (Anushree Mitra)  
9101200527 (Dikhyani Konwar)



# BASIC PRINCIPLES OF RAT CONTROL

**Timing!** The best time to control rats is during the summers when they are weak.



1.



**Together!** Collective planning and action are necessary for long term successful rat control.

2.

**Combine!** Never rely on just 1 method, as rats will learn to avoid them.

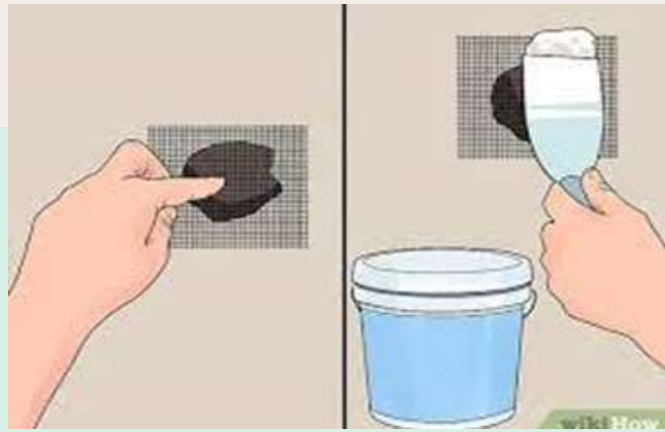


3.

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# RODENT PROOFING OF HOME AND STORAGE AREAS



Cover or close all holes in your walls. Some rodents can squeeze through holes as small as a dime.

01



Wash anything you use for eating and cooking after you are done with them.

02



Store food and water in containers made of thick plastic, glass, or metal with a tight-fitting lid.

03



Throw out trash as soon as you can. Put trash in a covered trashcan or dumpster.

04



Clean up debris and trash as soon as possible outside your home.

05



Don't eat or drink food or water that could have come in contact with rodents.

06



Raise storage structure. Put it on poles, 3 feet off the ground.

07



Put iron pins, disks, barbed wire or prickly bush around the poles to prevent rats from climbing up. Place it at 2 feet distance from walls.

08



Use metal sheets to cover the storage structure, this is slippery and disables rats to climb on it.

09

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# RAT MANAGEMENT IN THE FIELDS

## Information on rat habitat and behaviour

### What do rats like?

- Good harbourage and cover, so they can hide
- Weeds, that provide shelter and food
- Wide bunds for good shelter
- Fields with dense planting of crops



### What do rats hate?

- Open spaces: it makes them afraid that they can be eaten by predators
- Thorny or smelly plants: they don't like to get close
- Clean space where it is hard to find food



## 1. Row planting

- Must use spacing of 4 x 9 inches for rice
- Do proper weeding and cleaning of field
- Maintenance of spacing



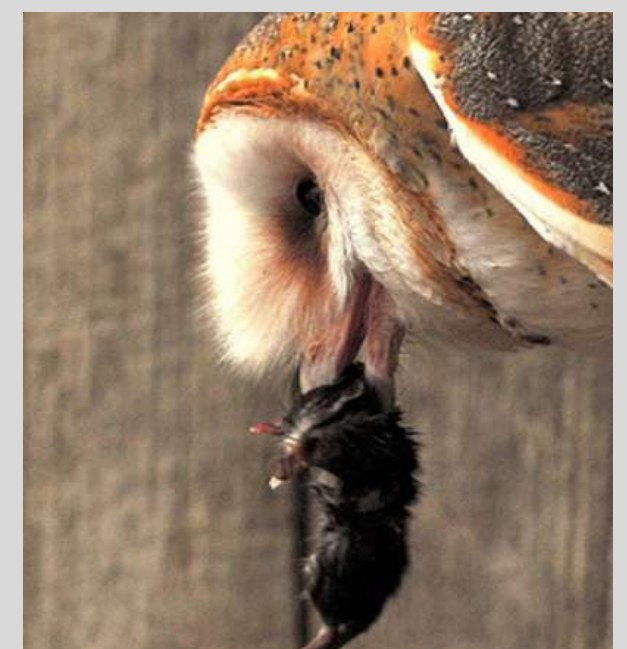
## 2. Reduce rat habitat and shelter

- Do field cleaning before a new planting season starts
- Place thorny bush or prickly/sharp grasses on soil bunds, at the edge of the field, or between rows to hinder rat movement.
- Keep the soil bunds narrow, less than 1 feet wide
- Flood the burrows with water first, before planting the seeds
- Search for rat burrows and destroy by stabbing/poking with a pole, hayfork or prong. Do this during tilling/ploughing.



## 3. Natural predators

- Rats perceive predation risk, with predators rats will limit their movement to seek food and mates.
- Keep cats and dogs at home
- Set up perches to attract owls and other birds to hunt rats



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# RAT SPECIES IN THE AREA

01



**Jungle Chuha- Indian Bush Rat**

- Tail, dark above and yellowish below.
- Body fur spiny.
- Rounded head with a blunt nose, with small eyes mark. Relatively short bill.

02



**Tharela- Lesser Bandicoot Rat**

- Boss of rats, the strongest around.
- It makes burrows up to 3 feet deep.
- Causes big damage, on 10 decimal land can singly cause 20% of damage.

03



**Gharwala/Ghareli- house rat**

- Lives around the house
- Most common rat worldwide.
- Spreads many diseases
- It is a good climber with longer tail to balance and lives on roofs of residential premises.

04



**Katheli - Indian Gerbil**

- Lives in the forest
- Found in groups, night active

05



**Chaura- Soft Furred Field Rat**

- Lives in the forest
- Night active
- Inhabits irrigated fields, in clear patches and in hedges and grasslands.

06



**Chote - house mouse**

- Very small in size but they can cut the stems of paddy rice
- It is omnivorous and causes lot of damage to grains and stored food material.

07



**Ghuus - Greater Bandicoot rat**

- very big rat at the house
- can make nest inside the kothi-structure and eat the food from inside out
- causes great damage and eats everything you leave open at the house

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# RAT FACTS AND LOSSES



**Rats multiply quickly. From one pair of rats, 1250 rats can be born in one year.**



**Rats greatly depend on the availability of good quality food and shelter to breed.**



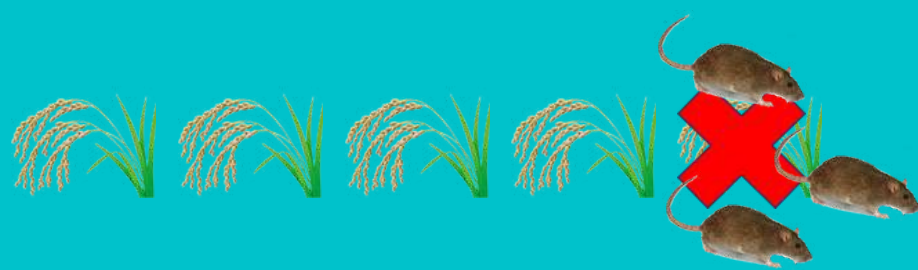
**Rats all over the world cause 15-25% damage to crops in the field and in the store.**

**Rats usually move within 30-100 metres of their shelter each day depending on food/mate availability.**

**Rats are very clever animals and can learn to avoid measures taken against them.**



**Rats eat your crops in the field, and in storage.**



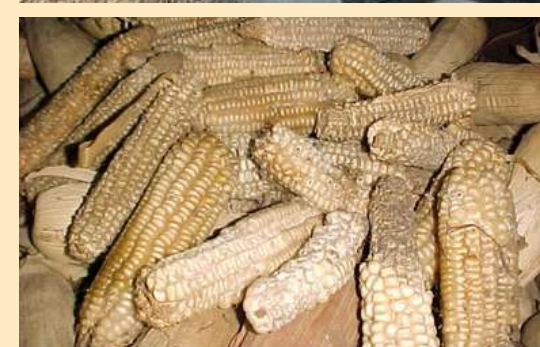
**They take about 1/5 of all the food you produce with hard work.**

**Imagine if there were no rats at all!**

**For just 1 acre, you could increase your income with:**

- ₹ 650 for just 1 acre of rice
- ₹ 550 for just 1 acre of wheat

**Over 1 year, this could mean increased income up to ₹ 10,000.**



## RAT LOSSES

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