

## **EDUCATIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE OF MULTIPLE CATCH TRAPS IN AND AROUND FOOD PLANTS AND OTHER COMMERCIAL FACILITIES**

Interior trapping for rodent control is designed as a supplement and partner to tight sealing of the plant, and the exterior baiting and sanitation program. In many plants, there will be few, if any, rodents caught inside the plant and this is as it should be. Nevertheless, it would be irresponsible to fail to have protection against any rodents that might enter or be carried in with materials. Multiple catch traps also can be used outdoors around perimeters and on rooftops.

The incoming product inspectors must use flashlights and, if necessary, black lights to try to find any rodents hiding within a shipment. Rodents are more likely to enter with bagged material or boxed material that is "Chimney Packed" with a void in the middle. Such items must receive additional inspection.

The key entry points in most structures will be the fork lift ramp doors, rail dock doors or any other doors that are at ground level. Do not overlook penetration points for pipes and electrical wires. Traps should be placed indoors on either side of interior doors within 15 feet of the door. Place a second set of traps about 15 feet further into the plant to catch any mice that missed the initial traps. Traps should also be used outdoors on either side of the doorways to supplement the perimeter prevention program. These areas and trap placements should be highlighted on the plot plan.

The perimeter control program must include an absolute foliage-free barrier of at least 3 feet from the structure.

Review the entire facility for areas that mice favor. These areas include:

- Available food
- Available shelter
- Dark and quiet areas
- Proximity to entrances
- Areas where mice have been caught before
- Employee locker areas
- Sprinkler rooms
- Loading docks

There is no need to bait traps. The presence of shelter behind the opening is the attraction.

Placement of traps in food and non-food areas should be along the walls at intervals of 15 to 40 feet depending on probable infestations and availability of placement. Traps are needed regularly in these areas but the density and specific location will change to reflect conditions. Placing a glue trap in the catch chamber of the trap provides excellent monitoring for crawling and flying insects.

A record of regular trap positions should be recorded on a plot plan and should be continuously updated. Whenever a catch is made, a small red X should be placed on the plot plan. Over a period of a year or more, this simple visual record will show graphically where the most mice were caught. The reasons for the catches will normally be evident. These entry points should now be corrected. Clients are willing to spend whatever dollars are needed to correct a problem if they are convinced of the necessity.

## **PREPARATION OF NEW TRAPS:**

- Inspect the new trap for any signs of obvious shipping damage.
- Check the tripping action\* by winding the trap a few turns, then firmly tap the bottom of the trap. \*(Excludes Pro-Ketch®)
- Attach service label or punch card where technicians will date, initial or punch as they service the traps.
- Assign a number to the trap as it is placed in the plant. This will correspond with the number on the plot plan. If it is a new installation, write the number on the plot plan.

## **PRECAUTIONS FOR HANTAVIRUS:**

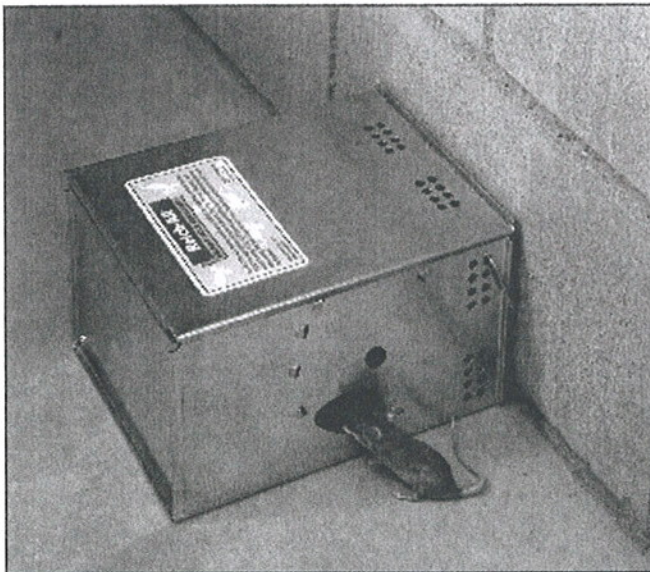
1. Do not sweep or vacuum in areas where dead rodents are found.
2. Disinfect all rodents, rodent traps and the area where dead rodents are found. (1 ½ cups bleach per gallon of water for 5-10 minutes).
3. Protective clothing includes disposable suits, rubber gloves, hepa filter, respirator, boots and goggles.



# PREPARING FOR SERVICE OF MULTIPLE CATCH TRAPS:

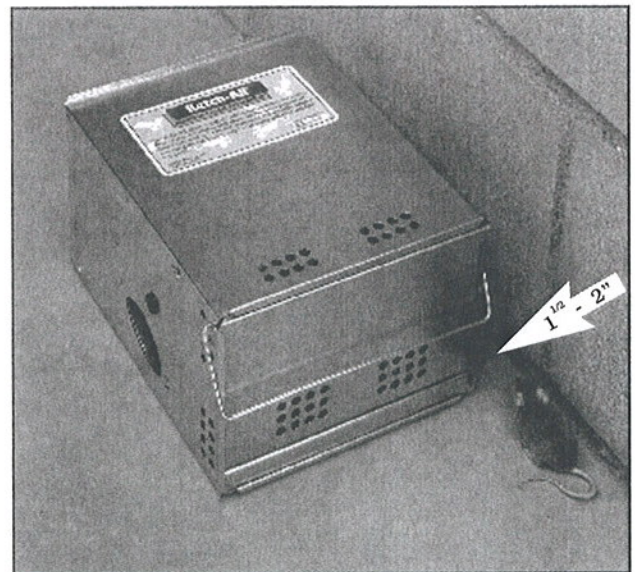
- The technician should have all necessary equipment before starting the service. This should include:
  - Rubber gloves to provide protection and to quickly wipe the dust off the top of the trap. New gloves should be worn daily.
  - A good bottle brush or similar brush to clean the inside of the trap.
  - Tools should include pliers, a putty knife, and a razor blade scraper, flashlight, knee pads and mineral oil or candle to lubricate the lid.
  - A container lined with a plastic bag in which to place any dead rodents and any other materials that require disposal.
  - NOTE: In areas where Hantavirus is suspected, all rodents must be treated with chlorine prior to disposal. Traps must also be disinfected.
  - Extra labels and at least one extra trap to replace any damaged traps. Store extra traps in the truck or at the facility to assure continuity of trapping program.

Photo A



**Perpendicular**

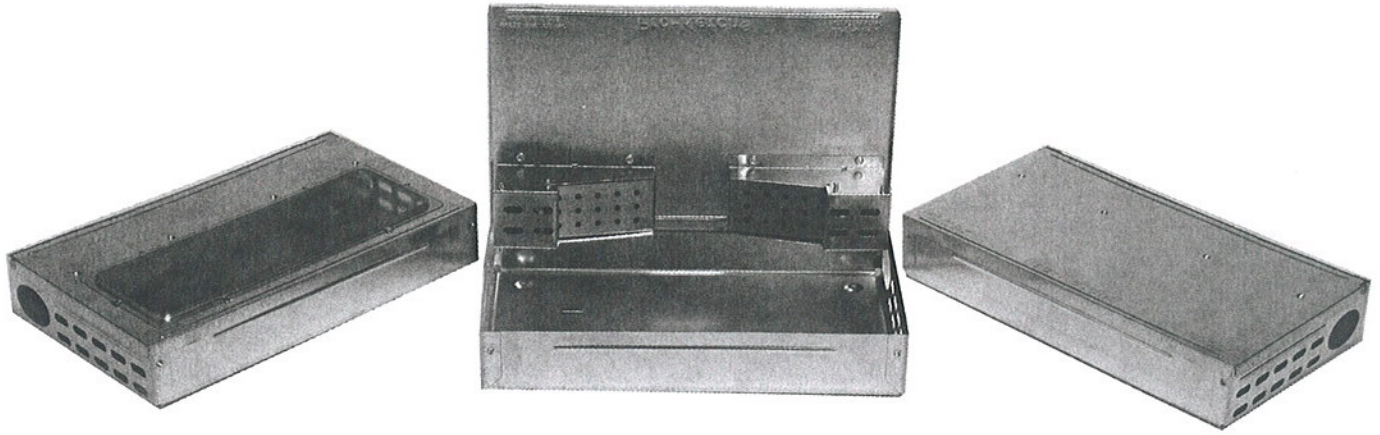
Photo B



**Parallel**

The traps should interrupt the normal paths of a mouse as it enters the plant or as it goes from a shelter area to a nearby food source. Mice will normally travel along a wall or flat surface. Place traps with the catch chamber touching the wall ( Photo A), or placed parallel to the wall and no more than two finger widths from the wall (Photo B). Placing the traps with the winding knob touching the wall is a good method of assuring the proper distance. Research has not shown a great deal of difference in either type of placement, but catches will be less if the trap is at a distance of several inches from the wall. (Pro-Ketch® should be placed flush and parallel to wall.)





## **ROUTINE SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE OF MULTIPLE CATCH TRAPS:**

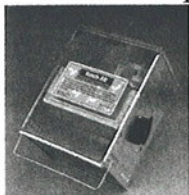
Check traps often enough that captured mice do not die and putrefy before they are found. Ideally they should be checked at least twice a week. This is often done with a weekly service by the pest control operator and one additional inspection by plant personnel. The inspection can be facilitated by the use of traps with either a clear view lid or a clear view end plate that permits checking without opening the trap.

- Using the plot plan, check for each trap by number and if any are missing, search the nearby area. Replace if not found, but keep track of areas where traps are repeatedly removed or damaged.
- Inspect the white line as you “run the trap line” for rodent droppings or stored product insects. Note any findings on your report and take appropriate further action such as searching nearby product for the source of the problem.
- Carefully check the trap before opening to see if any mice are captured. Opening the door without checking will permit the mice to escape. If a clear view lid or a clear view end plate is used it will be easy to see any captured mice. If all metal lids are used, shine your flashlight through the side perforations.
- Placement of glue traps in multiple catch traps provides better sanitation, ease of cleaning, greater protection from Hantavirus and a monitoring tool for crawling and flying insects.
- With a glue trap in place removing the dead mice becomes relatively easy and neat. Without a glue trap, a putty knife or a scraper may be needed.
- Live mice are more difficult to remove. The entire trap can be submerged in water to drown the mice. Many pest management professionals merely shake the trap hard enough to stun the mice so that they can be removed and disposed of in a number of ways.

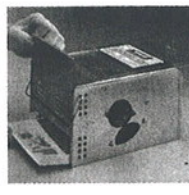
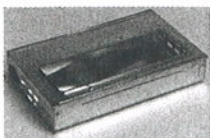
- Traps should be kept clean even if no mice are caught. The inside of the trap is brushed clean with a bottle brush or similar brush while the inverted trap is held over a trash bag or a trash bucket. The facilities floor under the trap is brushed clean since this area may not be cleaned when the rest of the white line is cleaned.
- Check the spring action\* of the opened trap by pressing on the lever at the back to trip the trap. A seasoned technician can tell by the sound and the speed of the rotating “spanking” device whether the trap was wound properly or not. \*(Excludes Pro-Ketch®)
- Initial and date the service label on the trap. The service label is usually placed on the bottom side of the lid to assure that the technician actually opens the trap. Under no circumstance should the technician record any notation of catches by this trap on the service label. Notation of catches should be posted to the plot plan.
- If there is evidence of mice, but the traps are not catching them, try moving the trap or adding additional traps. Also check nearby areas for products that have not been moved for months. It is possible for mice to live for generations in one pallet on some types of food. Moving and repalletizing may be necessary for the mice to end up in your trap. Most products in a food plant will not permit prolonged nesting. Proper stock rotation helps to alleviate this problem.
- If traps are being routinely damaged or there is heavy traffic in an area, use a heavy metal protective cover that is sold by some of the trap manufacturers.
- At least annually, clean all moving parts with soap and water and wipe or allow to air dry.
- Complete all paper work and discuss your findings with the key person in the plant along with any suggestions for improved sanitation and construction improvements.
- At least annually, present your marked plot plan to management along with a statement of your opinion of why those particular areas had the most mice, where the mice probably entered, and what steps the management should take to aid in the rodent control program.

## ACCESSORIES:

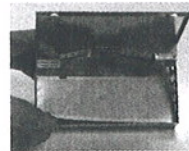
- There are numerous outstanding accessories available for multiple catch mousetraps.



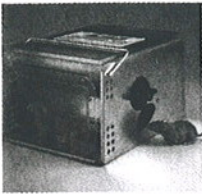
**CLEAR VIEW LID FOR BETTER TRAP MONITORING EFFICIENCY.** With clear view lids, you save the time it takes to pull back lids and check for catch, making inspection quicker and more efficient.



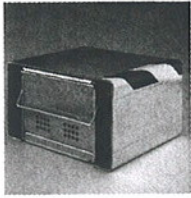
**GLUE TRAP** Holds mice and foreign material such as feces, hairs and potentially airborne particles in place. **THIS ALLOWS EASIER, FASTER, MORE SANITARY PEST REMOVAL** and added Hantavirus protection.



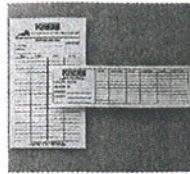




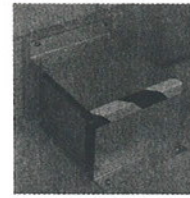
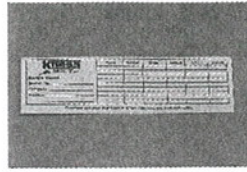
**CLEAR VIEW END PLATE**  
 INCREASES THE EASE OF MONITORING. To use, remove galvanized end plate and replace with clear view end plate, embossed side out. Make sure the clear view end plate is securely inserted into the bottom of the KETCH-ALL.



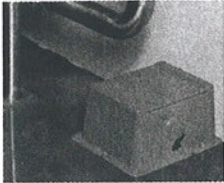
**PROTECTOR**  
 The protector is a heavy steel guard that protects the KETCH-ALL and MINI MOUSER from crushing by machinery, forklifts or foot traffic.



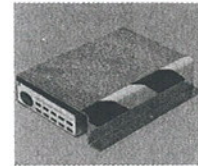
**SERVICE LABELS**  
 PROVIDE AN EASY WAY TO KEEP VITAL RECORDS ON EACH TRAP. Both service labels may be applied to the top or underside of the KETCH-ALL® and MINI-MOUSER® lids. Labels can also be placed on the perimeter surfaces of each trap. Each label may be placed on the inside cross bar of the KETCH-ALL.



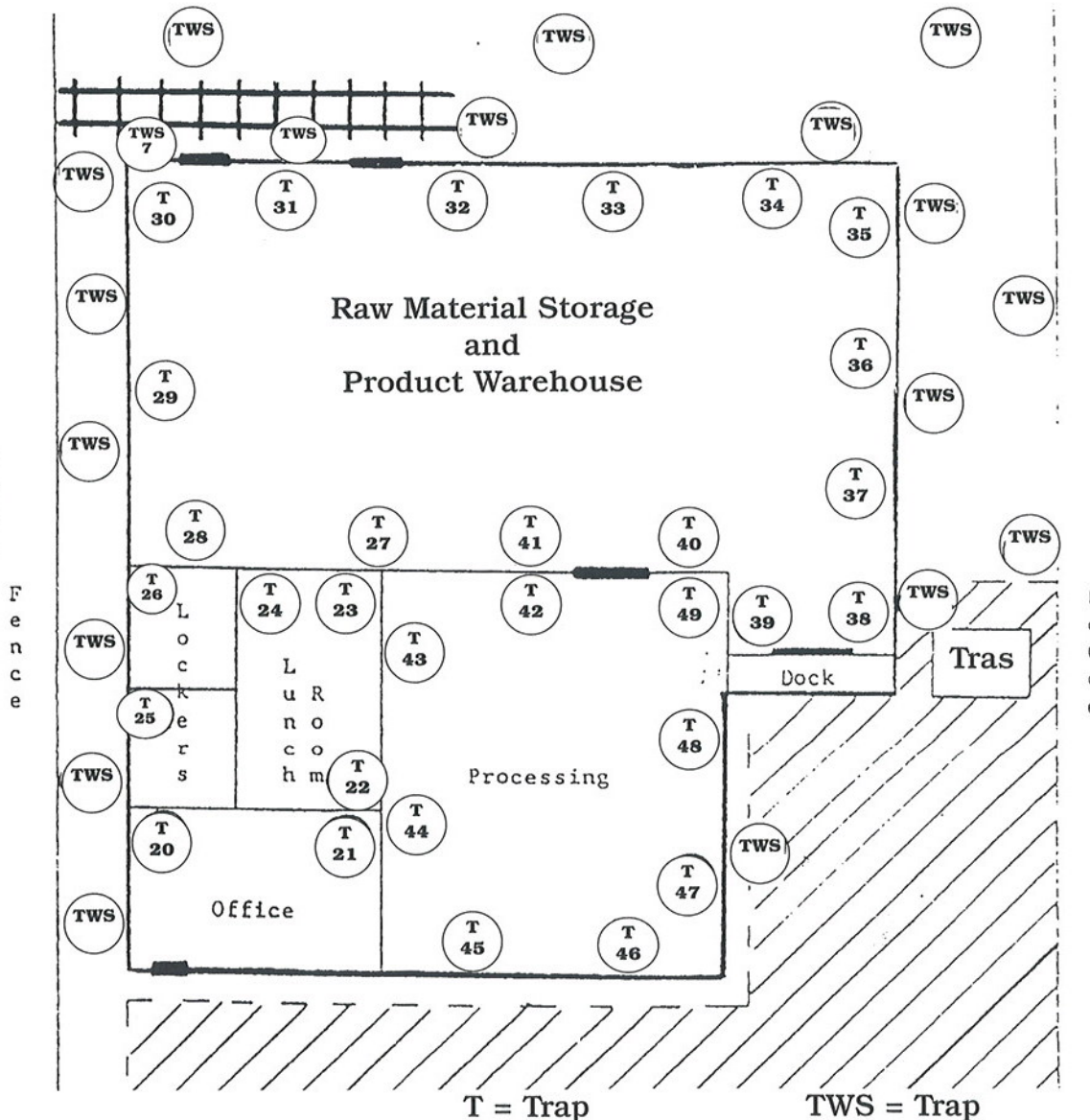
**WALL GUARD**  
 Provides protection for the KETCH-ALL® from placement of pallets, boxes, bags and other storage methods.



**ENVIRONMENTAL SHIELD**  
 The Environmental Shield allows you to use the Ketch-All outdoors for perimeter rodent control. The Shield protects the Ketch-All from all weather conditions and permits you to replace bait stations that require baits and poisons. The Environmental Shield prolongs the life of the Ketch-All in moist areas that require high sanitation and frequent washdown.



## EXAMPLE PLOT PLAN



**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kness Mfg. Co., Inc. • 2053 Hwy. 5 South • P.O. Box 70 • Albia, Iowa U.S.A. 52531-0070  
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