



Allpest Pest Awareness

Keeping you informed

Our Pest Awareness Series offer informative, easy to understand information on a range of problem pests.

We aim to keep you in control and as well as maintain a safe and healthier environment for your immediate surrounding.

Our Pest Awareness Sheet presents facts on:

- Overview
- Ecology and Habit
- Breeding Cycle
- Health Risk

For more range on the series, please visit our website www.allpest.com.au or call us at 08 9416 0200



House Mouse (*Mus Musculus*)

Overview

House mice usually have a brownish grey fur with an average adult weight of 15 grams. They have an excellent sense of hearing and smell but relatively poor sight (being colour blind).

Ecology

House mice live indoors and outdoors in nests that are generally within stored materials but they may burrow as well.

Habit

House mice are erratic in habit and inquisitive towards new objects. They often investigate new food sources within a very short time after their appearance and prefer to nibble small amount of food at numerous different locations.

Lifecycle

A house mouse has a life span of 9 - 12 months. Females are able to produce up to 8 litters per year with 1 litter size carrying 5 -6 offsprings.

Health Risks

Among the many diseases, below are the most widespread problems including the distribution of Salmonella bacteria (food poisoning organism):

- Murine Typhus fever (milder than epidemic typhus)
- Rat-bite fever (swelling of lymph glands and muscular pains)
- Lymphocytic choriomeningitis (mild meningitis)
- Mouse typhoid (severe food poisoning, particularly in young children)
- Poliomyelitis (types of polio viruses)
- Favus (Skin or ringworm)

Rodents and mice may transmit disease to humans by a variety of means:

- Contamination of food or utensils with their faeces or urine.
- Contamination by direct contact with faeces and urine where bacteria is able to enter the skin through scratches.
- Contamination by direct biting.



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