



The Rodent Index System

This IPM scouting system employs the use of mechanical traps (tin cats) to trap mice over a period of time. The goal is to have less than 10 mice from twelve traps in one week (rodent index ≤ 1) counted.

To account for days in use and number of traps used for monitoring other than prescribed above, the following algorithm (revised) is employed.

$$\text{Adjusted Mouse Count [AMC]} = \# \text{ Mice caught in all traps} * \frac{7}{\# \text{ days deployed}} * \frac{12}{\# \text{ traps deployed}}$$

This formula normalizes for periods of time traps are set and the number of traps used beyond the normal values of seven and twelve respectively. Use the adjusted mouse count to determine rodent index levels.

When measured over time the rodent index (RI) will indicate levels of control currently in place, and whether action needs to be taken to control a growing population. Be sure to log mouse counts and document who is making the counts. Graphing rodent index numbers over time will aid in making sound IPM decisions.

RI and Mouse levels

- RI = 1 (0-10 mice) *Low* [desired level]
- RI = 2 (11-25 mice) *Moderate* [Controls needed if continues 2 wks.]
- RI = 3 (26 + mice caught) *High Level* [Controls needed...**Now !**]



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