



Bait Shyness vs. Bait Aversion

Background

Effective rodent control can be challenged by rodent behavior. Bait shyness or neophobia and bait aversion are two examples. While similar, if these behaviors are not properly identified, they can delay or interfere with baiting success/bait consumption. Understanding and identifying the difference between these two behaviors can improve the results/success of a rodent control program.

Industry Education

For rats, neophobia -- the fear of anything new or unfamiliar -- is a natural behavior. This behavior translates into bait shyness, which is observed when rats avoid or are cautious toward a new bait station or new bait in their environment. An example of bait shyness behavior is when rats take very small samples of a new food source until they determine it is safe to consume.

This is not the case with bait aversion, which is the avoidance of bait due to a negative experience or changes in rat behavior. In other words, any ill effects caused by consuming a particular bait will stop a rat from consuming more of it.

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Benefits

ContraPest has not been shown to cause bait aversion, nor have adverse effects been observed in rat populations following its consumption. During the acclimation period, rats will discover the bait to be very palatable without any negative effects and will continue to come back for more.

Summary

While rats present neophobia or bait shyness as a natural behavior, bait aversion results from negative experiences. Consuming ContraPest does not cause negative experiences for the rats. In fact, even in cases of poison bait aversion, following prior control measures, ContraPest can still prove effective.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Our Technical Support team is always here to answer any questions and support our customers. If you have any questions concerning bait shyness vs bait version, or other questions regarding ContraPest and its deployment, please do not hesitate to reach out.

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