

## Mice

### Mouse Profile/Characteristics

The house mouse weighs less than 25gms and is approximately 7 -9 cm in length. The body has grey-brown fur, with a slightly lighter underside.

Mice are colour blind and sight plays only a minor role compared with other senses. They have however an acute sense of hearing and are particularly sensitive to any sudden noises.

### Where To Find Mice

The house mouse is common in a wide range of urban and rural buildings all over Britain. Although mainly a house dweller, it may live outdoors for part or all of the year. It is not found in sewers.

When living outdoors, or where there is no other hiding place, house mice will burrow in soil.

Mice are good climbers, and can climb vertical walls if they are sufficiently rough.

### Problems Caused By Mice

Mice are considered pests because of the adverse effects they produce.

Mice are known carriers of a number of diseases transmissible to humans. They also contaminate foodstuffs and cause damage by gnawing.



### Life Cycle Of Mice

Mice can breed more efficiently than rabbits and large infestations can develop very quickly from a single pair.

Conditions that suit rapid population growth are warm temperatures, surplus food and water, and undisturbed cover for rearing young and escaping from enemies.

The female mouse is capable of reproducing at the age of about 12 weeks, and can give birth to litters of 5 or 6 babies every 20 days, although an average of only 5 - 10 litters a year is normally produced.

### Control Of Mice

The householder can do a lot to prevent infestations. Ensure buildings are in good repair, sealing up gaps around pipes going through walls and repairing broken airbricks.

Ventilation and air bricks should be proofed externally and doors and windows should be close fitting.

Avoid leaving excess food out for birds and pets. Make sure dustbin lids fit closely and that household waste is properly disposed of.

**We provide a pest control service for the treatment of mice in both domestic and business premises. Please contact us for further information on treatments and current charges.**