



# Rats ~ or ~ Mice?

## Norway Rat

- Size: ~8 inches in length; 11 ounces.
- *Diet:* meat, livestock feed, pet food, fish.
- *Habitat:* burrows/underground tunnels.
- *ID:* husky; brown with scattered black hairs.
- *Reproduction:* litters of 6-12 at a time; 4-6 litters/year; breeding season in the spring & fall.
  - *Life Span:* can live up to 18 months.
- *Note:* can fit through a hole the size of a quarter.

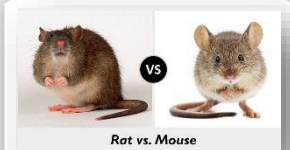
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## House Mouse

- Size: 2-4 inches in length.
- *Diet:* grains, fruits, seeds.
- *Habitat:* ground burrows, barns, and sheds.
- *Nesting Areas:* indoor walls, attics, storage boxes, under appliances.
- *Note:* can fit through a hole the size of a dime.
- *Reproduction:* Female house mice can give birth to 6 babies every 3 weeks; up to 35 young each year!

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Rat vs. Mouse



## Proper I.D.

Common pest rodents include: house mice, deer mice, and Norway rats.

House mice & Norway rats are the most common rodent species in/around a home.

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## Harborages

- Ground burrows found: beneath bushes, along building perimeters, highway embankments, beneath curbs, and along cracks in the sidewalk.
- Within interior and exterior structural gaps.
  - Sewer systems or other tunnel-oriented infrastructures (*example:* water lines).
- Within and/or beneath stacked materials, discarded furniture, derelict or abandoned autos, etc.
  - Empty lots, alleys, train tracks, etc.

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## Biology

Rodents are nocturnal—generally active at night vs. during the day.

Rats and mice are warm-blooded.

Can store up to a week's worth of food supply (or more) at a time.