

Nontoxic Mix Repels Rodents

The non-toxic spices and oils in Moen's Mouse-Mix keeps combines, trucks, garages, basements, and any other mouse-infested area rodent-free for months, says Tim Moen, who makes and markets the all-natural rodent repellent using a recipe he got from his mother.

"I grew up going to craft shows with my parents, selling her potpourri," recalls Tim Moen. "When she told me she had come up with a mouse repellent mix, I teased her that it wouldn't work, but it did."

Moen was a married schoolteacher with kids and had a lot of mice in his basement and garage at the time. "I started using her mouse-mix and the mice left overnight," recalls Moen.

Over the next 20 years, his mother continued selling it at craft shows until she developed Alzheimer's. Moen and his wife decided to invest in packaging and keep the Mouse-Mix going. He soon quit teaching and devoted himself full-time to making and marketing his mother's recipe.

"There is no other product like it. It sells

itself," he says. "We do about 200 trade shows a year and have added employees and are getting into retail."

In honor of his mother, Moen donates a percentage of profits to various Alzheimer related charities.

Moen's Mouse-Mix (regular strength) is priced at \$28.00 for a 1 lb., 8 oz. container. It will keep a basement, cabin or garage mouse-free for 4 mos. A Farm-Pack bucket (nearly a gallon) is priced at \$68.00. It's used to keep mice out of combines, tractors, grain bins, and other areas for up to 6 mos. A bag of the highest strength repellent mix, called Critter Crumbs, will protect up to 120 linear ft. of garden from moles, rabbits, and even deer. It's priced at \$42.

Moen recommends dividing the containers up into small zip-lock bags, filled about 3/4 full. Vent the bags by poking up to a dozen holes in one side of the bag with a sharp pencil prior to placement in corners and along walls, with the vent-holes facing up.

"Critter crumbs can also be used indoors," says Moen. "It is more concentrated than



Moen's Mouse-Mix keeps mice out of combines, tractors, grain bins, and other areas for months.

the regular strength Mouse-Mix and highly effective." Mouse-Mix, P.O. Box 901, Hudson, Wis. 54016 (ph 952 210-8992; www.mousemix.us).
Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Moen's

Spray-On Repellent Chases Mice Away

"We think it's the most effective product out there to keep mice away from enclosed areas," says Nick Olynyk about Grandpa Gus's Potent Mouse Repellent, a spray that mice hate to smell or taste.

The repellent is made from natural essential oils, including 7 percent peppermint and cinnamon, to repel mice and stop them from chewing. According to the company, it can be sprayed in farm machinery or vehicle cabs, under the hood of your car, in cabinets and toolboxes, and anywhere else you don't want mice.

Grandpa Gus's mouse repellent works somewhat like pepper spray. It leaves no stains, unlike castor oil-based formulas found online.

Olynyk says the product works great

when sprayed along the perimeter of walls and floors where mice often run. "When the repellent dries it leaves a residue coating on the floor or wiring. When mice bite into that or run on top of it, they get residue on their paws and then rub it in their eyes, nose, or mouth. The residue is effective for up to 1 mo."

An 8-oz. bottle of Grandpa Gus's Potent Mouse Repellent sells for \$9.99 in many stores including Tractor Supply Co. and Ace Hardware.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Vic West Brands, 512 E. Riverside Drive, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78704 (ph 888 698-6463; support@grandpagus.com; www.grandpagus.com).

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Rotary Scissor Head attachment uses 2 contra-rotating blades to snip grass, rather than "whipping" it like a string trimmer.



Attachment Turns Weed Whip Into Rotary Clippers

It's not yet available in North America, but the Rotary Scissor Head from Echo turns brush cutters with nylon line into precision clippers.

The first-of-its-kind attachment has 2 contra-rotating blades that snip the grass. The 18 over 15-tooth blade kit is driven by a 20:1 reduction ratio gearbox. An optional 28 over 24-tooth fine-cut kit is also available.

Benefits include a neater cut than nylon line, as snipped grass simply drops in place instead of flying out to the side. The Scissor Head also eliminates flying gravel or other objects likely to be thrown by high-speed

nylon line.

The innovative head offers greater precision than nylon line and is ideal for uncovering hidden objects and clipping up against trees, walls and curbs with little risk of damage or kickback.

The Scissor Head is selling in England for about \$330 (U.S.). It can be used with several Echo brushcutter/trimmers sold in the North American market.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Echo Tools, Countax House, Great Haseley, Oxfordshire, U.K. OX44 7PF (enquiries@echo-tools.com; www.echo-tools.co.uk).