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Did you know that more than 29% of America’s population has a rodent problem in their home? The leading contender — mice! These scurrying critters can spread diseases-causing parasites and salmonella. They cause quite the mess because they urinate constantly and can drop around 25,000 fecal pellets every year. Gross. Unlike critters, it’s hard to kill rodents… especially mice and we will tell you why in a while. So, to answer your question how fast does baking soda kill mice — in a day or two or… weeks. Mice invading your house poses a bubonic problem. They will take over your house and after watching countless episodes of Tom & Jerry, by now you should know that getting a cat is the solution to your mice problem. To be honest, if we didn’t know better, we would have assumed long ago that mice are as sneaky and intelligent as Jerry. That totalitarian win you have been dreaming about won’t come with a repellent. You will first have to find the mouse nest, which by the way contains 2 dozen mice and then commit mass murder. It can get nasty real fast, so we would suggest that you not do this. Since it will be difficult for you to find the mouse nest anyway, why not lure them in your trap? To get victory over this vermin, you will have to hatch a devious plan and throw them a party. Let’s talk about the basics of killing mice: Is Baking Soda Toxic to Mice? Baking soda, known as sodium bicarbonate, is used in all households for various reasons. From as a cleaning agent to cooking and setting traps for rodents and insects, this white powder is used in everything. It has all got to do with the chemical reaction it creates. Looking at its chemistry won’t give you any answers but if you peek under your sink, you will for sure see that Arm and Hammer sign and the box sitting as pretty as you please. Our point being — it’s in the kitchen, the bathroom, the laundry room and sometimes, even in the bedroom. As for baking soda being toxic to mice, the answer is yes and no. And you thought we were going to give you a straight answer, didn’t you? Don’t be confused. Here’s the reasoning behind it: Why Is Baking Soda Toxic to Mice? As the name suggests, baking soda is primarily used for baking. It helps soften and expand batter and dough. This reaction is achieved through the acid called “Leavening.” In layman terms, it’s foaming that is caused when gas (carbon dioxide) is released. Now that you have an idea about how baking soda works, let’s take this knowledge and apply it to mice: The code that needs breaking is that when this naturally occurring chemical can be used by humans to make delicious baked treats of the non-poisonous variety, then how come it’s toxic to mice? Don’t these rodents share around 85% to 99% of their genes with us! One thing you might not know is that mice are highly resistant to natural poisons. As they get older, they quickly develop this trait by exploring their surroundings. Compared to humans, they have a stronger genetic code. This doesn’t mean that they suddenly grow immunity to certain poisons but just that they have immense control over their body. Coming back to the code that needs to be cracked, the secret lies in the physiology and anatomy of mice. Mice Cannot Digest Baking Soda Apologies in advance for the vulgar knowledge we are about to impart now. If you have kids and pets in house, it’s better to avoid chemical mice killing recipes. This is why baking soda is your best option. Coming to the anatomy of mice — unlike humans, they haven’t yet discovered how to pass gas. It’s possible that flatulent comedic relief wasn’t that much of a necessary evolution amongst their species or is simply irrelevant. Whatever the case, this is the reason of their downfall. When mice consume baking soda, they die in agony. When they are not able to digest, it presses on their organs and that’s how it kills them. You might still see little footprints in your trap but that’s because they are struggling to survive. Before taking their last breath, they will find a dark corner and collapse there. If this happens, you will smell their rotting corpse after a while. This will start a whole new series of infestation. So, better block off any corners or slits through which mice might get into the walls or underneath floorboards. Your last resort is to call a pest cleaning crew because they are experts at this sort of a thing. DIY Mice Poison Remedy Now that we have established that baking soda is a potential poison for killing mice, let’s take a look at how to use it: How fast will baking soda kill mice depends on the trap you are setting. A clear sign that will tell you have mice running around in your house is fecal pellets. The top three poisons for killing mice are Plaster of Paris, boric acid and baking soda. The former two are seldom found in houses and this is why the latter is a clear winner. Before you dump baking soda over the floor where you saw the fecal pellets, we would like to tell you that this won’t work. Somehow, a mouse knows not to ingest a gooey ball of baking soda, which is why you need to be sneaky. Just like you trick your child into eating veggies by coating them in cheese, you need to disguise the foaminess of baking soda with food. Following are two baking soda DIY remedies for killing mice: Recipe #1 Recipe #2 Baking Soda: ½ cup Peanut Butter: ¼ cup Baking Soda: ½ cup Sugar: ¼ cup Mix together the two ingredients into small tiny balls that the mice will easily eat. Mice prefer sugar over other food items. To use this remedy, first thoroughly mix the two ingredients in a grinder. You can then use the fine powder as a coating agent. Instructions Wear disposable gloves so that you don’t get the wet mess on your hands and also because mice might detect your scent on the food and not eat it If you have a mice infestation, then we suggest adding a little chocolate into the mix For the peanut butter balls, place them in a Tupperware and for the loose sugar and baking soda powder; sprinkle it in all the places you saw the fecal pellets Target the areas that mice visit the most such as near the garbage bin, in dark corners and outside drains Monitor the areas regularly to see if there are any little footprints on the powder or if the peanut butter balls are missing If mice consume enough of any of these ingredients, they will die in a day or two. However, you will only able to tell this when you no longer see any fecal pellets Note: The ratio of baking soda to food ingredient should be 3:1. This ensures that you are feeding the mice poison and not filling their bellies with food. The average lifespan of mice is 5 years and one in captivity is 2 years. This is because they have access to food. However, if you capture and cage them without food and water, they will die within 4 days. Making a Bait Station Whether you have a lone mouse roaming inside the house or a nest, the best way to capture and kill them and make sure they die in a place where they are visible is to create a bait station. This bait station should be warm, cozy and dark. Here, you have two options: you can use a cut off piece of PVC pipe and place it in a dark corner or you can use small wood chips to create a nest. If this bait station remains undisturbed by you, the mice will consider it their home and will for sure take their last breath here. Final Word This is a lot of information to digest and we get it. To summarize how fast does baking soda kill mice, a day or week at most. It all depends on how effective your poison is. Was the baking soda of good quality? Did the mice fully eat the poisonous treat? Did they develop immunity to it? There are various things at play here but one thing you can be sure of is that if the trap is set at the right place and is yummy enough, then the mice won’t survive. A word of advice — don’t go with the stereotype that mice love cheese. In fact, this treat is quite low on their favorite food list. They love chocolate and peanut butter more than any other sweets. The short answer is no, you cannot reliably use baking soda as a primary method for poisoning mice. While the idea that baking soda can kill mice is a common myth, the reality is far more complex and significantly less effective. Although there’s a scientific principle behind the concept – the creation of carbon dioxide in the digestive system – the practicality of getting a mouse to ingest enough baking soda for it to be lethal is minimal. Let’s delve deeper into why this popular home remedy doesn’t quite live up to its reputation.The Myth vs. The Reality of Baking Soda as a Mouse KillerThe theory behind using baking soda to kill mice hinges on the reaction between baking soda (sodium bicarbonate) and the acids in a mouse’s stomach. This reaction produces carbon dioxide gas. The idea is that mice, unlike humans and other animals, are unable to burp or vomit effectively. Thus, it is thought that if they consume enough baking soda, the rapidly produced gas will cause a fatal build-up in their digestive system, leading to a rupture or blockage.However, several factors undermine this theory:Mice are Smart: Mice are inherently cautious and will avoid anything they perceive as a potential threat. A mound of plain baking soda isn’t likely to look appetizing to them. They typically forage for food, and consuming a large pile of anything that doesn’t smell like food is not in their nature.Taste Preference: Mice have developed strong taste preferences for food sources. They are more likely to be attracted to sugary, fatty, or grainy substances. Plain baking soda has a rather bland or even slightly bitter taste that will not entice them.Amount Required: Even if a mouse were to ingest some baking soda, the amount required to cause the theorized fatal reaction is significant relative to their body weight. A study found that it would require 57-84mg of baking soda to eliminate half of the mice tested, and considerably more to eliminate all of them.Unreliable Consumption: Mice will not consume anything that doesn’t smell like food. Thus, one must mask the baking soda in food, which could end up being an ineffective poison. Furthermore, even a mixture is not guaranteed to be consumed in amounts that would be fatal.Therefore, relying on baking soda to kill mice is unreliable and largely a waste of time. It’s crucial to understand that while the theoretical mechanism exists, it’s not practical in real-world pest control scenarios.Effective Alternatives for Mouse ControlInstead of focusing on ineffective methods, it’s best to utilize tried-and-tested strategies for mouse control:Snap Traps: Snap traps are one of the most effective and immediate ways to eliminate mice. When baited correctly, they offer a swift and humane death. They are widely available and relatively inexpensive.Electric Traps: Electric traps work by luring mice into a chamber and then delivering a fatal electric shock. They are also a fast and efficient method, especially for indoor use.Live Traps: Live traps capture mice without killing them, allowing you to relocate them away from your home. However, relocation must be far enough from your property, and it’s important to check with local regulations regarding wildlife relocation.Poison Bait: Rodenticides (poison bait) are a potent option, but they come with risks, especially if you have pets or children. These often work by disrupting the blood-clotting process. It’s crucial to use them carefully and follow all safety instructions.Eliminate Food Sources: Mice need food and shelter to survive. Cleaning up spills, sealing food in airtight containers, and keeping your home tidy are essential steps to deter mice from setting up shop.Seal Entry Points: Sealing all possible entry points – cracks, holes, and gaps around your home – is key to preventing mice from getting inside. Pay special attention to foundations, pipes, and vents.Use Deterrents: Natural deterrents, such as peppermint oil, vinegar, and cinnamon can make your home less appealing to mice. However, they may not be a long-term solution.Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)To further clarify the topic and provide even more valuable information, here are 15 frequently asked questions about using baking soda and other methods for mouse control:1. What foods are poisonous to mice?While mice are often thought to be attracted to all sorts of foods, some can be harmful. **Grapes, raisins, rhubarb, and walnuts are known to be poisonous to mice**. Lettuce can cause them to have diarrhea. These foods may be toxic or cause severe digestive issues. 2. Does salt kill mice? **Salt**, in itself, is not highly toxic to mice. However, a concentrated salt-based mixture may be detrimental to their digestive systems and may cause distress or even death if ingested in large quantities. 3. How does vinegar deter mice? The strong scent of **vinegar** can be very unpleasant for mice, which have highly sensitive noses. While it won't eliminate them entirely, the pungent smell can deter them from certain areas. 4. How often should I spray peppermint oil to repel mice?To keep mice away using **peppermint oil**, spray it every two weeks in areas where you have observed mouse activity. This helps maintain a scent that is unappealing to mice. 5. Can carbonated drinks kill mice? Yes, **carbonated beverages** such as Coca-Cola can potentially kill mice. Mice lack a strong gag reflex, so they cannot expel the gas produced by carbonation. This can lead to internal issues. 6. Will borax kill mice? **Borax** can be used in conjunction with food as bait. However, it may not be effective on its own. It's most effective when combined with attractive foods like peanut butter or pet food. 7. What scents do mice hate the most? Mice are particularly repelled by strong, overpowering scents, including **peppermint oil, chili oil, eucalyptus, vinegar, cinnamon, and citronella.** 8. Can mice survive poison?Mice that have ingested rodenticides often **die from internal bleeding** as the poison disrupts their blood clotting abilities. This process can take several days or even up to ten days. 9. What plant is poisonous to mice? **Water hemlock** is a highly toxic plant that can be deadly to both mice and humans if ingested. It's important to keep such plants away from where animals can access them. 10. Why do mice suddenly disappear? Mice will often leave an area if their food and shelter resources are no longer available. They seek out environments that provide better conditions for survival and reproduction. 11. Can baking soda and vinegar kill mice?When mixed together, baking soda and vinegar create carbon dioxide. However, this reaction primarily occurs when mixed, not in the mice’s digestive system, making it ineffective.12. Is it safe to use poison around pets? Using rodent poison can be dangerous to pets and children. If using poison, it is crucial to use **bait stations** that prevent unintended consumption. Consider alternative methods if you have pets or children. 13. Do ultrasonic pest repellers work for mice? While some claim **ultrasonic pest repellers** can deter mice, there is limited scientific evidence to support their effectiveness. Many mice tend to adapt to the ultrasonic frequencies and learn to ignore them. 14. What type of traps are best for catching mice? **Snap traps** are generally considered to be one of the most effective ways to catch and quickly kill mice. These are readily available and easy to set up in various locations. 15. Can mice be permanently eliminated?With a **comprehensive approach** that addresses entry points, food sources, and utilizing effective trapping or deterrent methods, you can reduce mice populations significantly. Permanent elimination requires ongoing vigilance and maintenance. ConclusionWhile the concept of using baking soda as mouse poison seems simple and appealing, it is simply not a reliable method for pest control. Mice are smart, picky, and require specific conditions for the baking soda method to even have a small chance of success. Therefore, instead of relying on such ineffective methods, it is far more effective to use proven methods such as snap traps, sealing entry points, eliminating food sources, and using various repellents to manage mouse populations effectively. Understanding the realities and limitations of home remedies like baking soda will help you make informed decisions on how to handle mice infestations effectively and humanely. Mar 4, 2009 312 4 131 South Eastern NH My beloved tom, Crook, who is a white meat bird is going to need to be put down I believe in the coming weeks. I got my two turkeys as pets and didn't know that they were the white meat turkeys and that their legs would give out. Despite keeping him on a limited diet he is beginning to fail. Yesterday he fell I'm sure his crooked toes are not helping him at all. He also just doesn't seem right and doesn't want to move around and follow my hen like he normally does. *sigh* I know that he will have to be put down at some point and no I'm not going to eat him, he is my pet and he has been a great one since April. I'm heartbroken. He is a beautiful sweet bird. I don't want to do it. I will need to find someone to do it. What is the most humane way? Please tell me that this is the right thing... These are my first turkeys and I have had so much fun with them. I hate my chicken, he/she whatever it is is mean and hard to catch. My turkey's go right back in their cage for dinner and I don't have to chase them around. Thanks... Apr 5, 2008 502 9 149 Central Virginia This is never an easy decision to make nor even discuss. I'm sorry your having to go through this. I've faced it numerous times with young Poults and Quail Chicks but not an adult Turkey. The method I use on smaller ones may work if you have a big enough box he would fit in. I have a box that I keep only for this purpose. It has a hole in the top of it and I place a plastic bag beneath the hole. I place the bird on the other side outside the bag and spray Ether (Starting Fluid) into the bag through the hole. The Ether puts them to sleep painlessly and the prolonged over exposure to the fumes finishes the job. You would want to make sure the Ether goes in the bag and not spray directly onto the bird. I haven't experienced it myself but I imagine it would burn badly if it were to get in their eyes. The reason I use this method is that it's painless. If you felt he is too large for this method, what I would do is use a 22 Cal. with Snake Shot in it at close range to the back of the head. While not totally painless, it would be quick. Again, I feel badly for you, David any gun in the head. but i have shot squirrels at 3 yards with 22 snake shot and it didn't kill it so, pick something bigger. 22 regular bullet. if your going to eat it put it in a barrel and shoot it so it doesn't flop around and wreak meat Quote: I agree save the meat! AS FOR HUMANE ,Any quick method is good. May 4, 2008 882 29 236 Southern Illinois A 12 ga or 20 ga loaded with a magnum turkey load will take him quick if you shoot the head and neck at close range, Mar 4, 2009 312 4 131 South Eastern NH Thanks, It wasn't his legs. He passed while sleeping. I also found out the MSPCA will put down poultry. Good to know if I need it for my hen Feb 28, 2009 1,498 8 171 Southern Illinois Nov 4, 2008 3,482 280 301 Cross Lanes, WV Jan 28, 2009 3,635 45 228 Geronimo Oklahoma I am working on this myself. Although I raise mine for meat, I nonetheless want to make the kill as quick and humane as possible. I have tried chopping (very hard with a big turkey with a thick neck), then stunning followed by slitting (one turkey woke up during the bleed out even though I whacked her twice with a steel pipe, so I won't be doing that again). I would never use ether because then you are just suffocating him. Easier for the killer but not the killee. I have come to the conclusion that my method of choice will be stunning (again with an iron pipe), then a quick decapitation with a sharp knife so it will be dead before it can wake up. A 22 to the head would be about the quickest method, though. For those of us who raise them for meat, that wouldn't be very practical in the long term but could certainly work in your situation. Good luck, and I admire your choice. Even though I don't see mine in that way, it is always hard to put down a pet. May 25, 2009 365 4 121 McNeal, AZ If you want to try turkeys again, I'd recommend Midget Whites. They are very friendly, make great pets and don't have all the problems meat birds have. Actually, any heritage breed will do. I'm just partial to the Midget Whites. Baking soda can be lethal to mice when ingested, as it causes internal distress. Understand how baking soda works as a rodent control method and the ethical and practical considerations of using it in your pest management strategy. Baking soda, or sodium bicarbonate, can function as a poison to mice. When ingested, it interacts with stomach acid to create carbon dioxide, a gas that mice can’t expel. This leads to internal blockages or ruptures and ultimately death. Baking soda kills mice fast, making it a practical option for quick rodent control. Baking soda can be combined with various enticing foods like peanut butter, flour and sugar, cornbread mix, cocoa powder, or chocolate cake mix to create effective bait for mice. Mice tend to stick close to walls and established routes, so placing bait along these paths is a strategic move. It’s also advised to wear gloves when handling bait to prevent the human scent from repelling the mice. While baking soda can effectively kill mice, it should be noted that this method isn’t deemed humane. The process causes discomfort, bloating, and a slow death for the mice. While baking soda can provide a temporary solution to a minor mice infestation, it’s not a long-term solution, especially for severe infestations. Other home remedies, preventative maintenance, or professional pest control might be required for a more permanent solution. Mice in homes can lead to a multitude of issues that go beyond simple nuisances. From causing structural damage to posing serious health risks, here’s a breakdown of why it’s essential to address a mouse infestation promptly: Structural Damage: Mice chew on wires, furniture, and structural elements of your house, leading to significant damage over time. Fire Hazards: Gnawing on electrical wires can create a serious risk of fire. Disease Vectors: Mice can carry and spread diseases such as hantavirus, salmonellosis, and leptospirosis. Allergies and Respiratory Issues: Their droppings and urine can trigger allergies and respiratory problems in humans. Contamination of Food: Mice can contaminate food sources with their droppings and urine, leading to foodborne illnesses. Damage to Personal Belongings: Mice may chew through important documents, clothing, and other personal items. Reproduction Rate: Mice reproduce quickly, leading to a rapid increase in the infestation if not controlled. Noise and Odor: Mice can create disturbing noise at night and leave unpleasant odors due to their droppings and urine. Pet Safety: Mice can carry parasites like fleas, which can be transferred to pets, posing additional health risks. Psychological Stress: The presence of mice can cause anxiety and stress for homeowners. Professional pest control can be costly and some people prefer natural, DIY methods over commercial pesticides. Baking soda is a common household item, and using it as a pest control solution offers a potential solution that’s easy on the pocket and accessible for most homeowners. Sodium Bicarbonate, or baking soda, is a white, odorless powder. Found in most kitchens as a leavening agent for baking, it’s also used for cleaning and deodorizing. It has a slightly bitter and saline taste, making it undesirable if encountered in large concentrations. While non-toxic to humans, baking soda can be deadly for mice. When mice ingest the Sodium Bicarbonate in baking soda, it reacts with their stomach acid to produce Carbon Dioxide. Unlike humans, rodents can’t effectively expel this gas, which leads to a build-up that results in internal blockages or ruptures. The rodent’s digestive system isn’t equipped to handle the rapid gas expansion that follows the ingestion of baking soda. The development of carbon dioxide gas leads to bloating and discomfort, progressing to cause life-threatening complications as the gas accumulates. Baking soda can be lethal to mice when ingested, as it causes internal distress. Understand how baking soda works as a rodent control method and the ethical and practical considerations of using it in your pest management strategy. When mice consume baking soda, it generates bubbles of carbon dioxide gas in their digestive system. Mice don’t have the physical ability to burp or pass the gas and expel it out like humans do, leading to a deadly build-up of pressure inside their bodies, causing discomfort, internal blockages, ruptures, and eventually, death. Mice lack the physiological mechanism to burp or pass gas, owing to their simple one-way gastrointestinal system. As a result, the carbon dioxide gas generated from the digestion of baking soda remains trapped within their digestive tract, causing internal distress and potentially deadly complications. Convincing mice to consume baking soda can be a challenge due to its bitter taste. Masking it with enticing food baits increases the chance of consumption. Below are a few practical and effective bait recipes using baking soda to control mice. Peanut butter’s mix of sweetness, fats, protein, and pungent aroma makes it an irresistible treat even for mice. In this section, let’s utilize this lure in crafting a potent homemade rodent bait. Ingredients: Peanut butter Baking soda Materials: Disposable saucers or lids (can be fashioned from plastic jar lids or repurposed plastic bottles). Here’s an easy-to-follow guide on preparing peanut butter and baking soda mouse bait: For your bait mix, combine equal parts peanut butter and baking soda in a small container. Roughly a few heaping teaspoons of both ingredients should suffice for a bait batch. Once your peanut butter and baking soda mix is smoothly blended, distribute 2 or more heaping teaspoons of it onto each of your disposable saucers or lids. Place your bait containers strategically around your home. Preferably, position them adjacent to walls or in spots frequented by mice. Using this peanut butter and baking soda bait will not only entice the mouse but administer a lethal dosage once consumed. Crafting this bait takes under five minutes and consists of basic ingredients found in most kitchens: flour, sugar, and of course, baking soda. You might want to add chocolate powder for boosted allure. Ingredients: Flour (any kind) Sugar (regular white sugar or finely powdered castor sugar) Baking soda Chocolate powder or sprinkles (optional, but adds additional appeal) Materials: Disposable saucers (which can be made from plastic jar lids or cut-down plastic bottles or milk cartons) Steps: Combine equal amounts of flour, sugar, and baking soda in a bowl. If available, add chocolate powder or sprinkles to the mix for an added enticing aroma. Mix these components thoroughly. Gradually pour a tiny amount of water into the mixture, mixing consistently as you add. Continue adding water until a firm dough consistency is achieved. Taking heaping teaspoons of your newly formed bait dough, transfer these onto your disposable saucers, ensuring there’s a generous supply on each. Position your bait-filled saucers along walls or in areas known to be frequented by mice. Be wary that mice are cautious creatures – you may need to leave your bait out for a few days before they start to feel safe enough to approach and consume it. Cornbread, a popular food item across many cultures, is also remarkably effective bait for mice. The smell and taste make it irresistible to these pests, leading them straight to your trap. Ingredients: Cornbread mix Baking Soda Materials: Disposable shallow containers Here’s a guide on how to make your cornbread mix and baking soda mouse bait: In a bowl, combine equal parts of cornbread mix and baking soda. Depending on the size of the infestation, a few heaping teaspoons of each should be sufficient. You can choose to use this bait mixture in its dry form, distributing even amounts into your shallow containers. To create dough baits—which might be more effective in preventing the bait from scattering around—gradually add water into your mix and blend well. Continue adding water sparingly until you achieve a dough-like consistency. Roll this dough into small balls and place them onto your containers. Strategically place these containers in mouse-prone areas in your home. Cocoa powder, with a decadent scent that attracts mice, is an excellent choice of bait when mixed with baking soda. Here is a detailed method on how to create this particular mixture. Ingredients: Baking soda Cocoa powder Sugar Materials: Disposable containers or lids Steps: Combine equal parts of cocoa powder, baking soda, and sugar in a bowl. Ensure that the ingredients are mixed thoroughly. The sugar adds a sweet element that is hard for mice to resist, masking the alkaline taste of baking soda. Once thoroughly mixed, distribute the powder into your disposable containers or lids. Place enough bait that can last a few days to a week. Strategically put these lids around your home where rodents have been spotted. Does the thought of chocolate appeal to you? It sure does for mice! Offering a chocolate delicacy is an easy way to attract mice towards our lethal lure. No need for actual baking, just a mix of chocolate cake mix, and baking soda will do the trick. Ingredients: Chocolate cake mix Baking soda Materials: Shallow container (a disposable bowl, bottom of a cut plastic soda bottle, milk carton, a deep plastic jar lid, or even a yogurt container would work) Directions: Take equal parts of chocolate cake mix and baking soda. Typically, a few heaping teaspoons of each should be enough for a batch. Mix them well in your shallow container. You have the flexibility to use this mixture in two forms: dry and wet. For the dry method, you don’t need to add anything else. Just ensure a separate shallow container filled with water is nearby, as mice might need water while consuming dry food. To create the wet version of the bait, gradually add a small amount of water. Combine well, continuing to sprinkle more water until you achieve a dense paste-like consistency. Your baking soda chocolate bait is now ready. Place it in strategic locations, ideally close to walls or in areas where you frequently spot mice. Remember to replace the bait regularly for best results. Knowing where to place your baking soda bait can significantly enhance its effectiveness in controlling a mouse infestation. Here’s a detailed table to guide you on strategic bait placement and important considerations: LocationReasonPrecautionsAlong wallsMice stick close to walls and established routes.Ensure bait is placed out of reach of pets and children.Kitchen cornersHigh traffic area for mice due to food availability.Clean up any food spills to avoid attracting mice away from the bait.Behind appliancesWarmth and shelter make these spots attractive to mice.Check regularly for bait consumption and replace as needed.Near openings or holesMice enter and exit through these points frequently.Seal any large openings to prevent more mice from entering.In attics and basementsThese are common nesting areas for mice.Use gloves when placing bait to avoid contaminating it with human scent.Under furnitureProvides cover and is a frequent hideout for mice.Ensure the bait is not accessible to pets.Garage cornersGarages offer food sources and shelter for mice.Keep the area clean and store food in sealed containers.Storage roomsMice are attracted to clutter and potential food sources.Organize storage areas and regularly check for signs of mice.Near garbage binsFood waste attracts mice to garbage areas.Secure garbage bins with tight lids and clean the area regularly.Crawl spacesMice use these hidden areas to move around the house.Ensure bait is placed safely away from HVAC systems and ducts. By strategically placing your bait in these locations, you can maximize its effectiveness in eradicating mice from your home. Always remember to handle bait with care and keep it out of reach of children and pets. Rats and mice are primarily nocturnal and have poor eyesight. As a result, they rely on established trails and paths that offer safety. They also tend to avoid anything contaminated with human scent, so wearing gloves while handling bait can increase its effectiveness. Handling any form of poison, including baking soda baits, should be done with care. Always wear gloves to prevent your scent from contaminating the baits and to protect your skin. Keep the bait out of reach of pets and children, making sure to place it in areas only accessible to mice. Understanding how quickly baking soda acts as a mouse poison can help you gauge the effectiveness of your pest control efforts. Here’s a detailed table showing the expected timeline from ingestion to death based on different dosages and mouse sizes: Mouse SizeDosage of Baking SodaExpected Time to DeathNotesSmall Mouse1-2 grams24-48 hoursSmaller mice may succumb faster due to their size.Medium Mouse2-3 grams48-72 hoursAverage-sized mice generally take a bit longer.Large Mouse3-4 grams72 hours to 1 weekLarger mice may take the longest to die due to their greater mass.Infestation (varied sizes)Varies1 week to several weeksLarge infestations may take longer to control completely. Regularly monitor bait consumption and adjust dosages as necessary to ensure efficient pest control. The rate at which baking soda poison takes effect varies depending on the size of the mouse and the amount consumed. Baking soda kills mice fast, providing a swift solution to a minor infestation. Typically, mice may die within 24 hours to a couple of days and weeks after ingesting the bait. To effectively kill a mouse and adult rat, it would typically have to consume about 2 to 3 grams of baking soda. Larger mice and rats may need to consume larger amounts. Recognizing the signs that a mouse has ingested baking soda can help you determine the effectiveness of your bait. Here’s a detailed table outlining the symptoms and what they indicate about the mouse’s condition: Sign of PoisoningDescriptionWhat It IndicatesBloatingSwelling in the abdominal areaGas buildup in the digestive system due to baking soda ingestionDisorientationConfused or erratic movementInternal distress and possible neurological impactSluggishnessReduced activity and slower movementsWeakness and discomfort from internal pressureIncreased ThirstFrequent visits to water sourcesDehydration caused by internal gas and distressDifficulty MovingStruggling to move or limpingSevere internal discomfort and muscle weaknessSeeking Dark AreasHiding in secluded, dark placesInstinct to hide due to distress and impending deathVisible SwellingNoticeable swelling of the body, especially around the abdomenAdvanced stage of gas buildup and internal pressureLethargyExtreme fatigue and lack of response to stimuliAdvanced poisoning and approaching deathDeathMouse found deadResult of internal blockages or ruptures caused by baking sodaPresence of DroppingsDroppings with a different appearance than usualEvidence of internal distress and potential digestion issues There are occasional instances of rats and mice developing resistance to baking soda. Just like with other pest control substances, some rodents can adapt to small quantities of baking soda over time and develop an immunity to it, reducing its effectiveness as a lethal poison. Recognizing the symptoms of resistance to baking soda in mice can help you adjust your pest control strategies accordingly. Here’s a detailed table outlining potential signs of resistance and suggested actions to take: Symptom of ResistanceDescriptionSuggested ActionContinued PresenceMice remain active despite bait placementIncrease dosage or switch to a different bait or methodMinimal Bait ConsumptionLittle to no bait being consumed by miceTry different bait recipes or add more attractive ingredientsNo Visible SymptomsMice show no signs of distress after ingestionUse alternative pest control methods like traps or professional servicesIncreased CautionMice avoid bait altogetherChange bait placement or use multiple bait stationsRapid ReappearanceNew mice appear quickly after others have been eliminatedImplement more comprehensive pest control measuresPersistent InfestationInfestation size remains unchangedCombine baking soda with other control methodsAvoidance BehaviorMice alter routes to avoid baited areasRelocate bait stations and monitor for changesAdapted Eating HabitsMice consume bait but show no adverse effectsExperiment with higher concentrations of baking sodaUnaffected HealthNo change in mouse health despite bait presenceUse professional pest control servicesEvidence of NestingMice continue to nest and reproduceRegularly rotate bait types and implement exclusion techniques When a mouse or rat is on the verge of dying from baking soda poisoning, it may exhibit some distressing symptoms. These include: Discomfort and bloating due to gas accumulation Decreased mobility due to internal distress Confusion Disorientation In the final stages, these rodents may also linger near water sources due to an increased thirst caused by internal disturbances and hide in dark, secluded areas around homes. After a mouse or rat dies, you need to find and remove its body. If the body starts to rot, it can make your house smell bad. If you don’t find it fast, the mouse or rat might be hard to find and it could hide somewhere like inside the walls, where it’s tough to retrieve. Using baking soda as a method for controlling mice has its advantages and disadvantages. Here’s a detailed table that outlines the pros and cons to help you make an informed decision: ProsConsEasily accessible and affordableNot considered a humane method of pest controlSimple to prepare and use with common household itemsCan pose risks to pets and non-target animalsNon-toxic to humansRequires frequent monitoring and replacement of baitNo need for professional pest control servicesNot a long-term solution for severe infestationsCan be used discreetly in various locationsMice can develop resistance over timeEffective in killing mice when ingestedCauses slow and painful death for miceUseful for small, isolated infestationsPotential health hazards if ingested by children or petsReduces reliance on chemical pesticidesMay need to be combined with other methods for effectivenessMinimal environmental impact compared to some pesticidesCan result in unpleasant odors from decaying miceCan be part of an integrated pest management strategyRequires careful handling and placement Although it’s an effective method for controlling mice infestations, baking soda isn’t considered a humane way to kill these rodents. The gas accumulation in their bodies causes discomfort and a slow death. Always consider the ethical aspects when choosing a pest control method and try to prioritize more humane ways to deal with mice infestations. While using baking soda as pest control is an accessible and affordable option, it also comes with its challenges. For one, using bait requires frequent monitoring and replacement, which may be labor-intensive. Additionally, baking soda isn’t selective and can pose risks to pets who might eat the bait. Lastly, it is not the most humane solution, causing slow and uncomfortable death for rodents. Baking soda can indeed be a potent weapon against mice infestations in your home, but it’s effectiveness is dependent on several factors. The placement of bait, the willingness of the mice to consume the bait, and the dosage of baking soda consumed, all come into play. Additionally, while baking soda may kill mice who consume it, this method may not be effective in managing severe infestations as it does not prevent other mice from entering your home. Baking soda can provide temporary relief from a minor mice infestation, but it’s unlikely to be a long-term solution. Mice breed rapidly, and for every pair you successfully poison, many more could be waiting to take their place. Furthermore, the potential risks to pets and other non-target animals make it a less than ideal choice for ongoing pest control. Comparing baking soda with other mouse control methods can help you determine the most effective and suitable approach for your situation. Here’s a table that outlines the pros, cons, and effectiveness of baking soda versus other common pest control methods: MethodProsConsEffectivenessBaking SodaEasily accessible, affordable, non-toxic to humansInhumane, potential risk to pets, requires frequent monitoringEffective for small infestations, slow-actingPeppermint OilNatural, pleasant smell, non-toxicNeeds frequent reapplication, not a lethal methodEffective as a deterrent, not for eliminating infestationsMothballsReadily available, inexpensiveStrong odor, toxic to humans and petsModerately effective as a deterrent, limited by toxicityUltrasonic DevicesNon-toxic, easy to useEffectiveness varies, mice may become accustomed to the soundVaries widely in effectiveness, good for preventionSnap TrapsQuick kill, reusable, non-toxicCan be messy, requires disposal of dead miceHighly effective for individual miceLive-Capture TrapsHumane, allows for relocation of miceRequires frequent checking, potential for re-infestationEffective for capturing live micePoison BaitsHighly effective, quick actionToxic to pets and humans, risk of secondary poisoningVery effective, but high risk of collateral damageProfessional ServicesExpert knowledge, thorough treatmentExpensive, requires schedulingExtremely effective for severe infestationsNatural PredatorsLong-term solution, minimal effort once establishedUnpredictable, dependent on availability of predatorsEffective in maintaining low mouse populationsSealing Entry PointsPrevents new infestations, non-toxicLabor-intensive, not a stand-alone solutionHighly effective in combination with other methods This provides a comprehensive comparison of various mouse control methods, highlighting their pros, cons, and overall effectiveness to assist you in choosing the best strategy for your needs. Sep 2, 2018 11,745 44,052 1,457 Big Chimney, WV My Coop My Coop When we moved into our house 8 months ago we had a mouse problem. The traps, the exterminator set up were not catching anything, but since i let the ducks loose in July, no mouse has been seen or heart. I have not seen my ducks catching and eating a mouse, but i'm sure if they spot one it'll be breakfast/lunch/dinner. Indian Runner Ducks are fast and always hungry! And yes, there are videos in the WWW of ducks catching and eating mice. --- Please vote »yes« here if you would like to have Duck and Goose smileys on BYC. Reactions: OkieChickenGal and casportpony May 13, 2018 1,540 5,050 556 Vermont I’ve been crossing my fingers that my Muscovies will go for some of the barn mice once they (the ducks) are fully grown. The mice are out of control, and I don’t think my cats would tolerate an official barn cat. If the ‘Scovies don’t go for them, my house cats are going to have to be put to work. As far as the ducks go, Daphne, at least, will eat large frogs and snakes. Why not mice? Reactions: Miss Lydia and casportpony Jun 12, 2018 1,039 2,351 276 My runner ducks peck mice to death. They don't eat them (they probably will eat baby-mice). They wait before their holes and when a mice comes out they peck them to death. I have a thread on here with the same question, because at first I didn't believe it. Now months later I can tell you that runner ducks (don't know about other ducks) dó kill mice. Better then my cat. My cat can't kill anything. But takes a mouse killed by a duck to us with great pride if she killed it.. we don't buy it. We are happy. They kill musquitos, flies, maggots, worms, mice, eveything I hate! And leave butterflies and bee's alone. But how they frantically and enthoustically kill a mice with all of them together gives you this eerie feeling they dó come from velociraptors May 13, 2018 1,540 5,050 556 Vermont I caught this little lady hunting a small mouse in the barn the other morning. She wasn’t successful, but her intent was clear! Maybe next time... Aug 13, 2010 291 5 111 Bonney Lake, WA My coop is the other half of our wood shed so plenty of places for mice to live. My feed can has a very tight lid. Yesterday, I found a big dead mouse that had tried to get into the coop but our hotwire is close enough to the ground that it got shocked to death. Was kinda funny yet got me worried. We have big square wire to keep the dogs & racoons out (haven't seen racoons for a few yrs but this is our first yr with chickens). Then chicken wire to keep smaller things out but mice are just small enough to get through the chicken wire. I have black ground cover cloth, I wonder if that would work to go around the bottom half of the pen. If it would work, should it go on the inside of the coop with the chickens or outside? We can't use bait to kill the mice as we have dogs & sometimes let the chickens free range through our yard. Shannon Jan 29, 2007 2,760 99 241 This thread seems to have gotten lost. I have mice problems too so I'd like to hear what others do. I am in process of building box traps, essentially a box big enough that a rat caught in trap is not reachable from outside of box. I plan on using these around my coop and run, which are rat proof, with 1/2 inch hardware cloth all around and top, whereas floor is raised plywood. I imagine that what works for me for rats would also work for you with mice. Buy bait tubes and put "Just One Bite" rat poison bait that you can get at the feed store inside the tube slathered in peanut butter. I don't have a rat problem as long as I keep my bait tubes full of poison. Apr 25, 2010 156 2 111 Wisconsin I put a rat trap under a plastic open-weave type milk crate with a big patio block on top. It can go right inside my coop without the chickens getting at it. Feb 5, 2009 34,022 645 448 South Georgia Quote: X2. I just put a little in the rat hole and cover it with a chunk of concrete block. Whatever works for you to keep chickens and dogs and such away from it. The chemical in Just One Bite is bromadiolone. Unlike the usual warfarin rat poisons, it has no effect on whoever eats the dead rat. I have three dogs and 2 cats, most of whom have been seen eating rats/mice. May 28, 2010 691 11 121 NW Kentucky I pick up my feeders at night and don't leave any feed outside. Only have 16 chickens in two small coops/pens though. deb g Aug 21, 2009 3,213 568 421 Belding Michigan I am concerned about poisons as we used it in the basement and when I cleaned I found little piles every were . Mice are hoarders, if the chickens get a hold of rat poison; that would not be good. I have switched to traps that kill, they can be placed so chickens can not get to them but you don't need to worry about the mice moving the poison If you’ve noticed droppings in your pantry, heard scratching behind your walls, or seen a tiny blur of movement across your kitchen floor—yeah, you’ve probably got a mouse problem. And if you’re Googling home remedies, chances are you’ve seen baking soda pop up as a possible solution. But is baking soda a real way to kill rats or mice? Or is it just another internet myth? Let