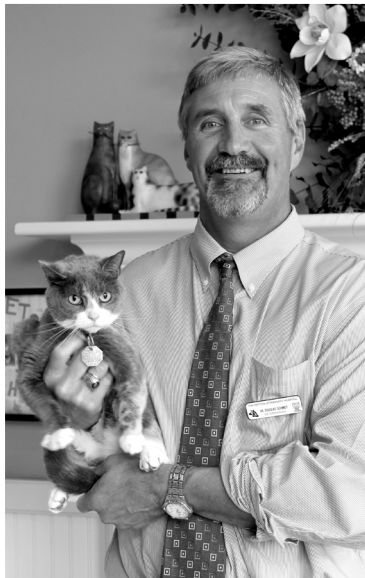


# ASK OUR VET, DR. SCHMIDT



*We occasionally get mice in our house. Is there any rat bait out there that will kill the mice, but not harm my cats and dogs?*

As far as products that the mice have to consume, no. If it can kill a mouse or rat, it can kill your pets too. Most of them work by preventing the animals' blood from clotting, which causes them to bleed to death. If a pet does accidentally consume some, and you can act immediately on getting them to your veterinarian, most of them have antidotes to stop the lethal effects. What can sometimes be confusing to pet owners is that a lot of times it actually takes 2-3 days before they display any symptoms. So, if you wait a day or so, you may think your pet is going to be OK, then, whammy! They literally get deathly ill. If they bleed internally into the chest or belly, that may delay a diagnosis, and it may be too late. If they bleed from their nose, mouth, rectum, or have bloody urine, that obviously sets off immediate concern. So, if there is ever any concern that a pet may have eaten rat bait, you need to call your veterinarian immediately.

Thus, that brings us back to those pesky mice. One great solution is to get, you guessed it, a cat. But sometimes they don't help much either. A visit to a farm store has a good variety of pet safe traps that can be really effective too. Example: mouse trap or glue

trap can be very effective, and if your pet comes in contact with them, usually only minor harm will be done.

And last but not least, call an exterminator. They can help you decide what will be the safest and most effective pest control to employ. Good luck!



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