

## KC73 RAT TRAP

The Rat trap is a live-catch cage trap for the control of rats in both urban and rural environments. A hook and treadle-operated device with a separate one way flap entrance, the trap is designed to capture the animal unharmed. It is also useful where bait shyness is apparent.

### SETTING THE TRAP

- Place the rat trap on the ground with the carrying handle uppermost.
- Raise the horizontal door slide (that holds the door closed) to its highest point. Hold in this position.
- With the other hand, push the door setting / release bar backwards (thus opening the door), until it lays almost flat against the top of the trap, and insert the end through the eye of the bait hook. Be careful, as the spring-loaded door could flip back, flicking the release bar upwards towards the operator
- The sensitivity can be altered depending on how far the setting / release bar protrudes through the eye of the bait hook – the closer to the edge of the eye, the more sensitive the setting. Some movement of the eye and bait hook assembly below can be expected. The trap is now set.
- After positioning the trap (see below), adjust the sensitivity to suit. Be careful not trigger the treadle when your fingers are in the door apertures, as this can have painful consequences!

### PLACING THE TRAP

- It pays to spend some time observing the animal's movement patterns. This is especially important if you know where they are feeding.
- Carefully place the trap on the ground as close as possible to areas that the animal frequents. Set or adjust the trap as described above. Remove any debris that could interfere with the traps action.
- Bait the trap accordingly. Rats will take a wide variety of foods, but slices apple, bacon rind or chocolate works well. Baits should be placed to entice the animal inside the trap door, a little more just inside, and a slightly larger amount on the / platform.
- Check trap at least daily.

The Animal Welfare Act 2006 must also be consulted.

The BASC code of practice 'Trapping Pest Mammals' must also be observed.

### "TIPS OF THE TRADE"

When the traps are new, leave them outside for a few days to 'weather' – this removes any new or human smells. As rats are very wary, it often pays to camouflage the trap with natural materials lying nearby, such as grass, twigs or leaves. Covering with a cloth also helps in some circumstances.

Remember that under pest control legislation it is illegal to release these animals without the landowner's permission once captured. They should be humanely dispatched and removed.

