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## MOUSE CONTROL IN MY ORCHARD

Perry Lowe Jr.  
*Moravian Falls, NC*

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## MOUSE CONTROL IN MY ORCHARD

Perry Lowe, Jr. - Apple Grower  
Moravian Falls, North Carolina

The control of mice was by far the most serious problem that I had in producing apples before Endrin became available as a ground spray. I have used Endrin in my orchards every year except one since it became available in our area. The one year that I failed to use Endrin I lost 20% of the trees in one block from mouse damage.

Before Endrin was available and I had to rely on the use of baits for mouse control, blocks of trees had to be replaced while in their prime producing years because of the high percentage of trees that had been lost to mouse injury.

Since I have been using Endrin I can keep a high percentage of trees until the block needs to be replaced because the varieties have become obsolete. When I was using baits I spent more years producing new trees than I did producing apples.

One of my neighbors has an orchard of 100 acres in which he had lost 33% of the trees from mouse injury by the time that they reached bearing age.

On close investigation he found that 94% of the trees that had not been killed had active mouse runs at the base of the trees.

After baits were used active runs were still present at the base of 50% of the trees. Two Endrin ground sprays were applied and the number of active runs was reduced to 9 percent of the trees.

Endrin ground sprays in addition to being the only effective method of mouse control has another advantage over the ineffective baits.

A large acreage can be treated in a short time with a small amount of labor. The availability of labor to do the stoop work required to put out bait stations, and placing baits would make the use of baits almost impossible even if the baits were an effective method of mouse control.