

# Signs of Infestation of the Norway Rat

- ∅ **Gnaw Marks.** New gnawing or holes tend to be rough whereas, old gnawings are smooth from wear and old holes are often greasy.
- ∅ **Droppings.** Fresh droppings are soft and moist whereas, old droppings are dried and hard; adult Norway's are about  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch with blunt ends VS adult roof's that are about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch with pointed ends.
- ∅ **Tracks/Footprints.** Front foot is 4-toed and the print is in front of the usually longer hind print with 5-toes. Fresh tracks are clear and sharp whereas, old tracks are at least partially obscured by dust.
- ∅ **Rub Marks.** Fresh marks are soft, greasy and easily smeared whereas, old marks are with the grease dry and flaky.
- ∅ **Burrows.** Found in earthen banks, under concrete slabs and under walls. If active, they will be free of dust and cobwebs. The main opening is usually with hard packed soil and rub marks may be visible.
- ∅ **Runways.** They consistently follow the same paths, usually along walls, among stacked merchandise, etc. Active runways will be greasy in appearance, free of dust and cobwebs, with fresh tracks and/or droppings.
- ∅ **Damaged Goods.** Norway rats prefer meat, fish and cereal; whereas roof rats prefer fruits, vegetables and cereals.

