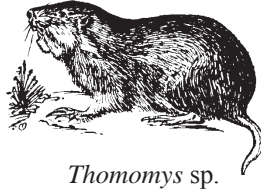


# PEST CONTROL BULLETIN NO. 29

## POCKET GOPHERS



### GENERAL INFORMATION

Pocket gophers are common, small, and soil inhabiting rodents whose presence is most familiar by the damage they do to lawns and yards with their mounds of dirt and their injury to or killing of plants and trees by feeding on the roots or girdling the trunk. They may breed throughout the year, but are most active when the soil is moist with green vegetation, following fall or winter rains.

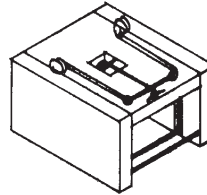
### CONTROL

Control should be given at the first indication of their presence and especially before early March, after which the spring litter (average 5 to 6 young) and following migrations will occur. The best controls are by use of traps (wire or box type). Refer to the following trap sketches. Traps and commercially prepared poison baits treated with anticoagulant material are available at many hardware, feed or farm supply stores, and nurseries. Controls other than the use of traps are *not* usually recommended; however, machine bait application data is available for large-scale work in orchards and fields.

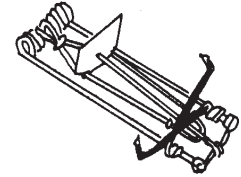
### USE OF TRAPS

Set two traps opposite each other in the main runway, usually 6 to 8 inches below the surface and within 2 feet of a fresh mound. Locate the main subsurface runway by digging out and removing soil from a fresh mound until the tunnel-like runway is found. Traps should be tied to a stake on the surface to prevent loss. Traps not sprung within twenty-four hours should be reset in a new location.

### TRAPS



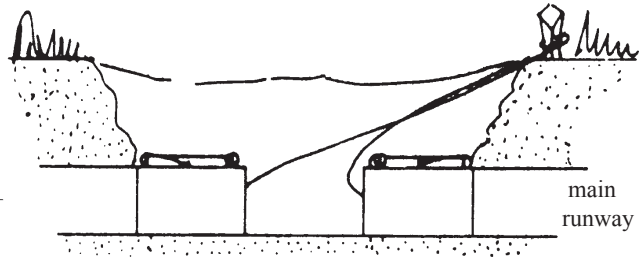
Box Trap



Wire Macabee Trap

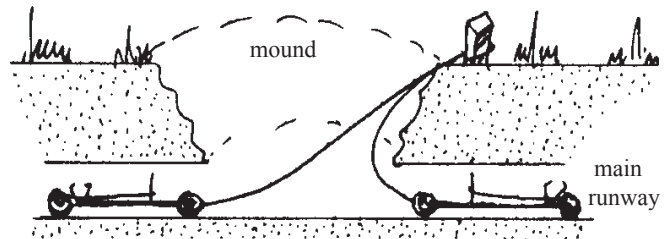
### Box Trap

After placing trap as shown below, close open ends of runway with a clod or clump of grass and cover with soil to shut out light.



### Wire Macabee Trap

After placing one or two traps as shown, cover completely with soil, but not more than 1 inch deep on top.



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