

Dear Manager,

I have noticed that you sell glue traps for catching mice/rats and I am politely requesting that you stop selling them because of the suffering they cause. Mice and rats who become stuck to them may suffer for hours or even days before dying of exhaustion or dehydration. They sometimes chew off their own legs in attempt to escape.

Research by global animal welfare organisation Humane Society International (HSI) has found that many people do not know what to do with live animals caught on glue traps, and others don't even realise the glue trap doesn't kill the animal outright. Anyone using a glue trap has a legal responsibility to prevent the animal from suffering and to kill the animal 'quickly and humanely', but HSI's research indicates that some people would leave animals to die on the trap, some would throw the trap in the bin with the animal still attached, and others would throw the trap into a bucket of water to drown the animal. All of these actions could be prosecutable offences under the Animal Welfare Act (2006).

A public opinion poll carried out in 2015 found that almost seventy per cent of people in the UK support a ban on rodent glue traps.

We understand that people do not wish to live in close proximity with rats and mice but there are humane ways to deter rodents from the home and garden using non-lethal products. Some suggestions for other products that you could sell instead of glue traps are:

- Copper/wire wool and strong sealants to block entry holes
- Peppermint/eucalyptus oils to deter mice from the kitchen/home (they have been found to avoid the smell of these oils)
- Rodent-proof bird feeders to prevent rats being attracted to bird food in the garden
- Cat/dog-repelling gels & crystals, eg 'Get Off My Garden', which also deter rodents
- Humane 'live catch' traps

Would you please join the many other retailers who have made the ethical decision to withdraw rodent glue traps from sale and sell kinder solutions instead? Please sign the pledge below so that Humane Society international can promote your compassionate decision to all of its supporters in the UK.

If you would like further information, please email info@hsiuk.org with the subject line "GLUE TRAPS" or call 020 3174 2185.

PLEASE RETURN TO Humane Society International (UK)

By post: 5 Underwood St, London N1 7LY

By email: info@hsiuk.org

I confirm that I will discontinue the sale of rodent glue traps

Manager's name (please print):

Shop name:

Address:

Signature: