

Claims

1. A rodent trap comprising:
 - a trigger arranged to be triggered by a rodent;
 - 5 a kill mechanism arranged to kill a rodent in response to the trigger being triggered by the rodent;
 - a trapdoor positioned adjacent to the kill mechanism, having a closed position and an open position;
 - a storage area positioned on the other side of the trapdoor to the kill
 - 10 mechanism;wherein the rodent trap is arranged such that when a rodent is killed by the kill mechanism, the rodent corpse passes through the trapdoor into the storage area.
2. A rodent trap as claimed in claim 1, wherein the trapdoor is biased to return to the
- 15 closed position.
3. A rodent trap as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the trapdoor comprises a latch mechanism arranged to keep the trapdoor closed before a rodent has been killed by the kill mechanism, and to release the trapdoor after a rodent has been
- 20 killed by the kill mechanism.
4. A rodent trap as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the trigger comprises bait to attract a rodent.
- 25 5. A rodent trap as claimed in any preceding claim, further comprising a reset mechanism arranged to reset the kill mechanism after a rodent has been killed by the kill mechanism.
6. A rodent trap as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the trapdoor is
- 30 positioned beneath the kill mechanism, the storage area is positioned beneath the

trapdoor, and the rodent trap is arranged to allow the rodent corpse to fall through the trapdoor into the storage area following being killed by the kill mechanism.

7. A rodent trap as claimed in claim 6, wherein the trapdoor is arranged to be
5 opened by the weight of a rodent corpse upon the trapdoor.

8. A rodent trap as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the kill mechanism comprises a compressed-air powered bolt.

10 9. A rodent trap as claimed in any of claims 1 to 7, wherein the kill mechanism comprises:

a capture arm, wherein the capture arm is biased from an armed position to a triggered position;

a latch arranged to hold the capture arm in the armed position;

15 and wherein the trigger is arranged, when triggered by a rodent, to release the latch so that the capture arm moves from the armed position to the triggered position to kill the rodent by exerting a force on the rodent.

10. A rodent trap as claimed in claim 9, further comprising a reset mechanism
20 arranged to return the capture arm to the armed position after a rodent has been killed by the capture arm.

11. A rodent trap as claimed in claim 8, wherein the trapdoor comprises a latch mechanism arranged to keep the trapdoor closed, and wherein the reset mechanism
25 is arranged to release the latch mechanism as the capture arm is returned to the armed position.

12. A rodent trap as claimed in claim 11, wherein the reset mechanism is arranged to engage the latch mechanism after the capture arm has returned to the armed
30 position.

13. A rodent trap as claimed in any of claims 9 to 12, wherein the capture arm moves in a plane parallel to the trapdoor mechanism.

14. A rodent trap as claimed in any of claims 1 to 8, wherein the trapdoor is
5 positioned to a side of the kill mechanism, and the rodent trap is arranged to push the rodent corpse through the trapdoor into the storage area following being killed by the kill mechanism.

15. A rodent trap as claimed in claim 14, wherein the kill mechanism comprises an
10 impactor to strike the rodent to kill it, and is further arranged to push the rodent corpse through the trapdoor into the storage area using the impactor.

16. A rodent trap as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein kill mechanism
comprises a shroud, and is arranged to kill a rodent when the head of the rodent is
15 within the space formed by the shroud.

17. A rodent trap as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the storage area
comprises a removable bag into which the rodent corpse passes.

20 18. A rodent trap as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the storage area
comprises a preservative.

19. A rodent trap as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the storage area
comprises a fragrance.

25 20. A rodent trap as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the storage area
comprises a liquid absorbent.

21. A rodent trap as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the storage area
30 comprises a biocide.

22. A rodent trap as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the storage area comprises a dispensing mechanism arranged to dispense a substance into the storage area.

- 5 23. A rodent trap as claimed in claim 22, wherein the dispensing mechanism is arranged to dispense the substance when the kill mechanism is activated.

24. A rodent trap as claimed in claim 22, wherein the dispensing mechanism is arranged to dispense the substance when the trapdoor is opened and/or closed.