

# Keeping Mice OUT of your Winter Bee Hives (mice being trapped) Mouse Trap

The grass at the entrance of the hive indicates that mice have already started building their nest in the hive. Therefore, it is time you put out mousetraps.

Put mousetraps on either side of the landing boards because bees need to go out for cleanup flights. Put in the standard Victor mousetrap and with a syringe some peanut butter on it, always wear some gloves to keep off the scent on the traps. What happens is that on extremely cold days, bees often die inside your hive, and when they do that they have a tendency to plug up the entrances with dead bodies. If you don't keep those clear your bees cannot exit the hive in winter and you could have a complete die-out of your bee colony. In some cases even a mouse will die inside bees can clean their hives out they can clean the colony they cannot remove a dead mouse so what they end up doing is just encapsulating it with propolis.

## More on clean-up

Sometimes heavy rain or even snowfall will trigger the trap so you just come out and reset them make sure that if the entry boards of your beehives are plugged with dead bees you clean them out. Bees are notifying simply because it's just too cold, although you will see bees fly even when there's snow on the ground to do a cleaning flight and generally they may just die. Cleaning up inside the hive by removing dead bees, especially in cold seasons helps keep the hive well-ventilated. When getting rid of the mouse, just flip your gloves around them to avoid contamination by contact and then through them into the garbage.