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Tēnā koe 

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation (DOC), received on 27 May 2025, in which you asked:

*If any research or trials with rodent contraceptives have been or are currently conducted in New Zealand to control rodent populations?*

We have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA).

Our response:

The Department of Conservation has not undertaken any research or trials with contraception for rodent control. As far as we know no government agency, crown research institute nor university has undertaken such trials or research on rodents. Research on population control using contraception has been undertaken on horses and possums in New Zealand, and in the UK work has been undertaken on grey squirrel control using contraceptives.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) may be published on DOC's website.

Nāku noa, nā



Tim Bamford  
Director Terrestrial Biodiversity  
Department of Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*