

RESEARCH ABSTRACT



PORK SAFETY

Title: North Carolina Trichinae Study - NPB #99-240

Investigator: Mike Stringham

Institution: North Carolina State University

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Abstract

A rodent control program was established on a four house finishing facility in eastern North Carolina that had a previous history of low incidence trichinae parasitism. A pre-treatment index of thirteen mice was established by trapping for all four houses in January. Rodent control practices, primarily vegetative control and routine baiting, were initiated and maintained for the next six months (February to July). Monthly trap counts were compared with the pre-treatment index. The greatest reduction (79%) occurred inside the finishing houses. Mouse numbers on the outside of the buildings rose above the pre-treatment index early in the study, but declined to dramatically during the last four months. Nevertheless, the reduction in mouse catches for building exteriors was 42% for the entire study period. Overall, mouse indexes were reduced by 62%. One group of mice and two rats were submitted for trichinae examination. Status of those samples is unknown at present.

These research results were submitted in fulfillment of checkoff funded research projects. This report is published directly as submitted by the project's principal investigator. This report has not been peer reviewed

For more information contact:

National Pork Board, P.O. Box 9114, Des Moines, Iowa USA

800-456-7675, **Fax:** 515-223-2646, **E-Mail:** porkboard@porkboard.org, **Web:** <http://www.porkboard.org/>