

with plenty of discarded food.

The 2023 summer protests were another inflection point in the city's history with rodents. Trash was not picked up and so it was left to accumulate on the street and be eaten by rodents.

Noted urban rodentologist, Dr. Bobby Corrigan, has always pointed to food and sanitation as the main culprits or deterrents of rodent infestations.

"If those rats show up in that alley night after night, and everything's tidy, and everything's been cleaned up, and everything's in tight cans, and so forth — if they don't get food, they don't come to that alley any-

more," he says. "Period."

Cases of Leptospirosis in France have recently doubled, as of 2022. Leptospirosis is a zoonotic disease that is transmitted by rat urine. The rat urine gets into water or food and is then consumed by animals or humans. It can also enter the body via broken skin. In France, there are around 600-1,000 cases of Leptospirosis annually, which is one of the highest rates per capita in Western Europe. Most exposure to the disease is during leisure activities like kayaking, canoeing, or swimming. According to L'Obs, a French publication, Paris encourages sewer workers to get vaccinated

against Leptospirosis, but it estimates that only 70-75% of workers are. Souyris has admitted that trash collectors and sewer workers would be one of the groups most at risk with the purported cohabitation.

Disease is not the only thing Parisians have to contend with from rodent infestations. In a Le Parisien article, a pest control company general manager told stories of how rodents gnawed through people's car cables and internet wires. Rodents can also spark house fires by chewing through home's electric wires.

The city has yet to take any definitive action on Hidalgo's plan. ■



# THE BELL REPORT

International Edition

VOLUME 26 | NUMBER 3 | JULY - SEPTEMBER 2023

*Come say Aloha to the Bell team at*

**PESTWORLD**  
**2023** October 17-20  
 Honolulu, HI  
 CONNECTED. INSPIRED. EDUCATED.

*Booth #823*



Address Service Requested

6551 NORTH TOWNE RD., WINDSOR, WI 53598  
 www.belllabs.com



## PARIS INVESTIGATES: Can Rats and Humans Exist Together?

Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo has proposed a new initiative for her city's 12 million residents. She's suggesting they learn to cohabitate with the estimated population of 2-6 million rodents.

According to an article in Politico; "with guidance from the mayor, we have decided to form a committee on the question of cohabitation", announced Anne Souyris, Deputy Mayor of Paris, Public and Environmental Health. In previous comments, Souyris has mentioned that rodents do not pose a major public health threat to Parisians and that rodents live primarily in the city's sewers and are rarely in contact with the city's residents.

The advice comes on the front end of the 2024 Summer Olympics, which is expected to bring in millions of spectators

and hundreds of thousands of world-class athletes. The cosmopolitan city also welcomes approximately 44 million visitors annually. As one of the biggest tourism destinations throughout the world, Hidalgo's decision puts Parisians and tourists at risk of disease. If infected, these people can travel back to their home country and spread harmful diseases.

Paris has a long history of rodent problems. The city is a major commercial hub that sits right on the edge of the Seine River, which empties into the English Channel. In addition, Paris also deals with crumbling infrastructure and a network of underground sewer run lines.

These two problems make it easy for rodents to get in and out of places in their search for food and water while also stay-

ing out of sight of humans.

During the mid-14th century, Paris was afflicted with the Bubonic Plague, which killed 80,000 people or 1/3 of the city's population. Throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, Paris hosted public rat hunts and encouraged ratproofing of buildings. Unfortunately, due to incentivized rat catchers who bred rats for their own gain and a lack of control at ports, the Parisian war on rats failed to make any dent in the rodent population.

Throughout the 21st century, the city has continued to deal with rodent infestations. Paris has had to intermittently shut down its park systems due to rodent infestations, since rodents were feeding on the leftover bird seed used to feed the city's pigeons. Parks are also a popular lunch spot

*continued on back page*





# TRAPPER<sup>®</sup> TUNNEL

**NEW**

Bell is pleased to announce the upgraded Trapper<sup>®</sup> Tunnel glue tray cover, a durable and protective polypropylene plastic cover for improved reusability. The cover helps prevent dust, debris and non-target animals from contacting the Trapper<sup>®</sup> Rat Glue Tray.

Arched entryways and double-sided walls help filter rats onto the glue tray while also preventing escape. Pest Control

Operators (PCOs) can easily place and remove the tunnel from the tray to quickly access and dispose of any captured rodents. The rounded design also makes it so each glue tray still fits securely against any wall.

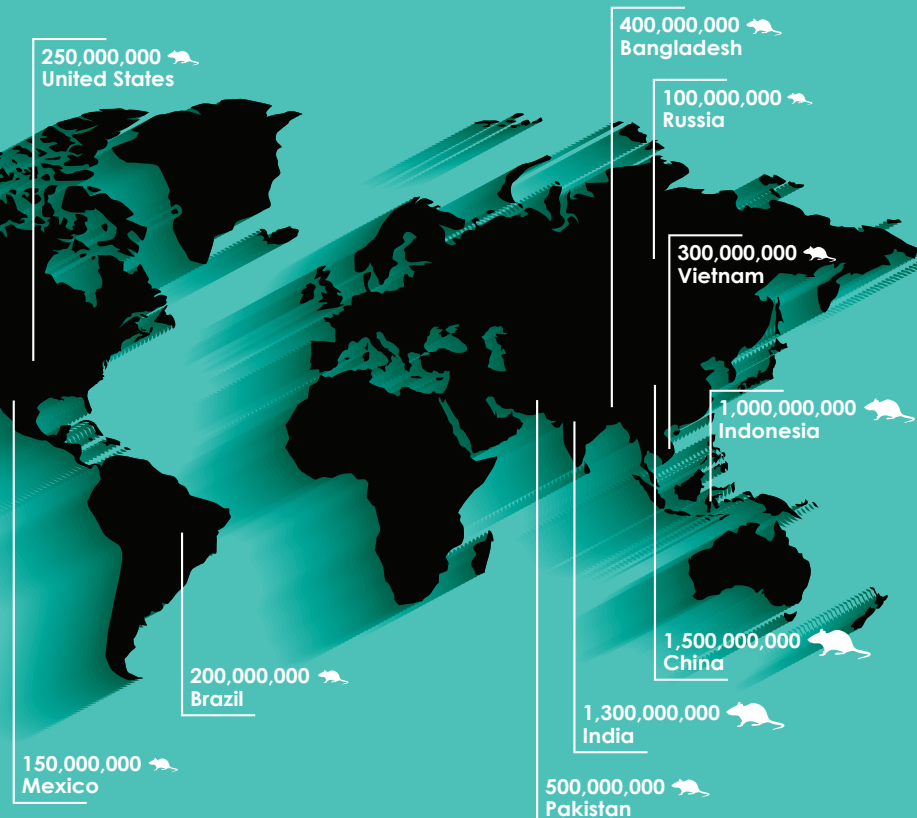
Contact a Bell Representative to learn more about the benefits of glue tray protection. ■



## Rodent Population Worldwide

Ever wonder what the world's rodent population looks like? Here are the top 10 estimated rodent populations in the world.

7,000,000,000  
Total Estimated Rats in the World



## Terad<sub>3</sub> Blox Launched at Aneberries Convention

Latin American Business Manager Andres Pizarro recently attended the annual Aneberries Convention in Guadalajara, Mexico and made a guest appearance on the organization's official podcast to discuss the benefits of using Terad<sub>3</sub> Blox. This active bait with Vitamin D3 is known for its high melting point and weatherability in agricultural settings.

Pizarro said the meetings were productive and well attended. He looks forward to working with Aneberries and other agricultural producers in the country. ■



Above: Bell's Pizarro on the Aneberries official podcast



Aneberries is a collection of largest berry growers and exporters in Mexico.



Above: Bell's Pizarro (right) with Vesperis and BuyGreen reps.

## Wood and Jones Take Part in Australia's

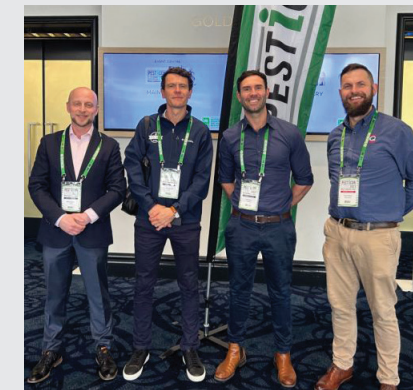


Bell Labs Asia Pacific sales team, Nick Jones, Technical Services Representative for Australia and New Zealand, and Sam Wood, Asia Pacific Business Manager, attended Australian Environmental Pest Manager's Association (AEPMA) Pesticon 2023.

The annual conference has become the premier event for Asia Pacific pest managers. At this year's conference, Wood participated in two panel sessions: Wellbeing Panel – How to Make Positive Changes for You and Your Employees and The Hidden Perils of Rodenticide: Mitigating the Ecological Impact of AEPMA's Proactive Measures for Environmental Conservation. During the panels, Wood was able to demonstrate his experiences and knowledge to attending pest managers. ■



Above: Wood and Jones at their Pesticon booth



Above: Wood with Pest2Kill reps at Pesticon

## Lakhani & Sims Attend National Pest Awards 2023

Bell Labs UK/ROI Regional Manager Michael Sims and Central, Northern and Eastern European Regional Manager Shyam Lakhani attended the National Pest Awards 2023 in London. The black-tie event was attended by major pest control businesses and allowed Sims and Lakhani a chance to network and talk with customers from the UK. During the festivities, a variety of award categories were highlighted, including the Pest Controller of the Year, Young Pest Controller of the Year, Large Company of the Year, Business of the Year, and a Lifetime Achievement Award. The Large Company of the Year award, won by Cleankill Pest Control, was sponsored by Bell Laboratories. ■



Above: Sims and Lakhani pose at the UK's National Pest Awards