

Hotline Question 5/3/16

A gopher is eating plants in my vegetable garden. How can I get rid of it? I have a dog and don't want to use poison bait.



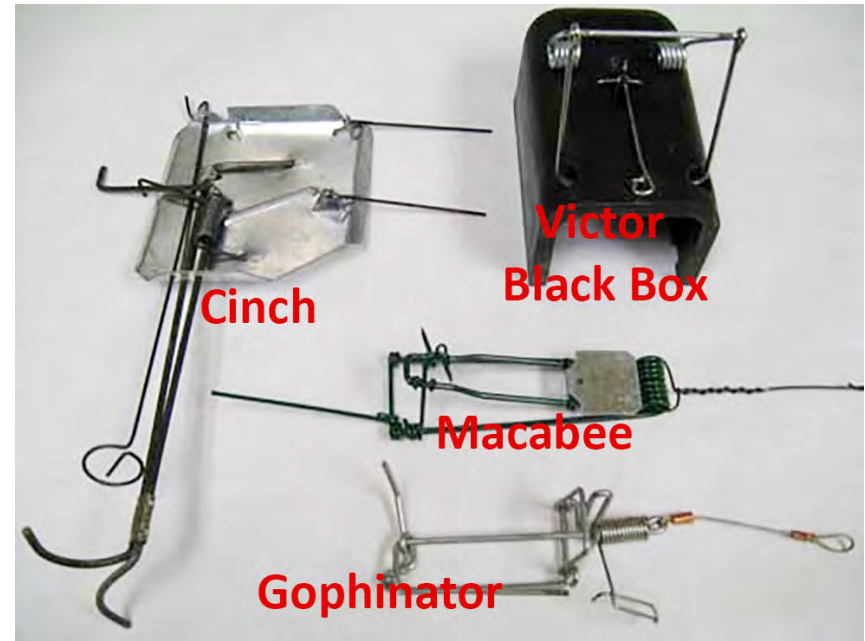
- Poison bait may not be safe to use if you have a dog. Gophers that eat poison bait placed in their main tunnel usually die underground but a dog may get sick or die if it digs up and eats a poisoned gopher.



- Traps can be used to kill gophers. They should be placed in the gopher's main tunnel near signs of recent activity.
- Knock down/step on all mounds in the afternoon and check for fresh mounds the next day.
- You can use a probe to locate the main tunnel and set two traps – one facing each direction.



- Refer person to UC Pest Note – Pocket Gophers and videos online to learn how to set, bait and place traps properly.



Quick Tips:

<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/QT/gopherscard.html>

Pest Note:

<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7433.html>

If vegetables are growing in a raised bed with a wood frame gophers can be excluded by covering the bottom with hardware cloth or poultry wire. Other methods that repel or frighten gophers are not effective and will not reliably protect desirable plants.



