HELPFUL HINTS

- Traps set and not sprung in 24 to 36 hours means one of two things. Either it hasn't been set on an actively used runway, or not enough stoppage has been made in the runway and moles are passing through the loops without raising the trigger pan.

- Traps found sprung with no mole caught, means that too much blockage of the tunnel has been made. The mole has forced enough dirt ahead of him to trip the trap before he gets inside the loop.

- Traps that moles burrow around indicate that the loops are "showing" in the tunnel. Either trap hasn't been set deep enough or tunnel curves under it.

- The bulk of the moles' food is earthworms. When days and nights are warm and moist the earthworms are near the surface, and it's the best time to trap moles. Worms crawl into the tunnels to be in the air yet in the dark. Worm breeding takes place under these ideal conditions. Moles go back and forth along the tunnels, as hunger prompts them, to eat the worms.

- Since moisture and warmth are vital to earthworms they operate at various levels throughout the year, going down for moisture in dry weather and for protection when it is cold. Moles work at the same level as the worms, which explains why trapping is not successful in some runways at one time or another.

- The adult mole is between 4 and 7 inches long, weighs less than 4 ounces and has a life span of approximately 3 years.

- Moles feed mainly on earthworms and insects. A mole cannot survive more than a few hours without feeding. A typical adult mole spends about 4 hours hunting for food then rests for about 3 hours. This cycle is kept up for the entire life span of the mole.

MOLE CONTROL

A pair of moles produce four young each year. The young are seldom observed until they are practically full grown. In the middle western states the young are born in April, and are fed in the nest until sometime in June. When the young begin to run in June, a sharp increase in the number of runways will be observed. The burrows are from one and one-half to two inches in diameter, and are feed lines. Into these burrows crawl the earthworms and insects which are eaten by the moles. As a rule there is one family of moles for each set of runways and feed lines. In times of food scarcity, the runways of one family may be invaded by moles from a different family of moles.

Moles are kept out of the greens of golf courses by killing the soil organisms in the soil. This is accomplished by applying strong mixtures of lead arsenate or ammonium sulphate. A golf green having no earthworms or insects in the soil will not be bothered by moles. They burrow up to the green, then stop. They burrow for food, not for fun. To make sure that moles will not damage your lawn or garden, you must destroy them. You may drive them away temporarily, but they will return when your soil contains their favorite food materials.

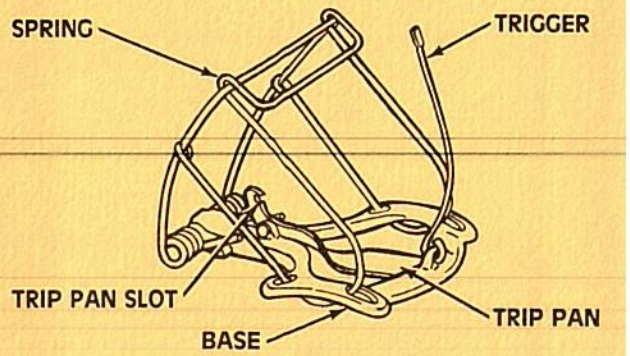
The surest way to eliminate moles is to destroy them. This can be done by using a choker loop type of mole trap. Other types of mole traps have been devised, but none is as efficient as the choker loop type. This trap will work in lawns, vegetable gardens, and in any kind of soil. In setting the choker-loop trap, less attention need be given to conditioning the soil. The loops may be forced into the ground with the certainty that they will react promptly when the trap is sprung. Traps of this type will also stand up to the work better than any other type in heavy clay or gravel soils.

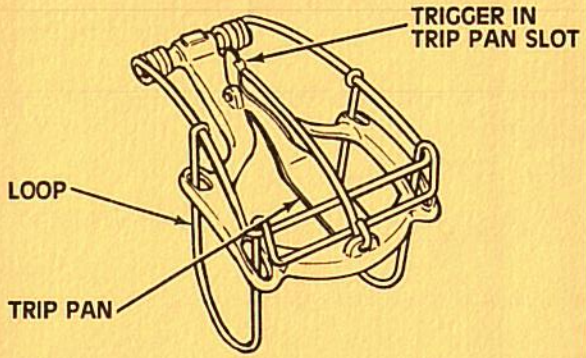
Moles do not eat garden seeds and bulbs, although they are often blamed for doing so. If moles make their runways in the rows of plants in the garden it is because there is more moisture, more insect larvae and earthworms in the rows than between the rows. The moles are looking for insects and earthworms to eat. The real culprits responsible for eating the seeds are mice, rats, gophers, and other seed and plant eating animals. In making a runway beneath a row of plants, however, moles will damage plants by admitting air around their roots.

Excerpts from an article by Dr. Paul Scott that appeared in July, 1949 issue of "Organic Gardening" Magazine.

NASH MOLE TRAPS

VICKSBURG, MICHIGAN
49097

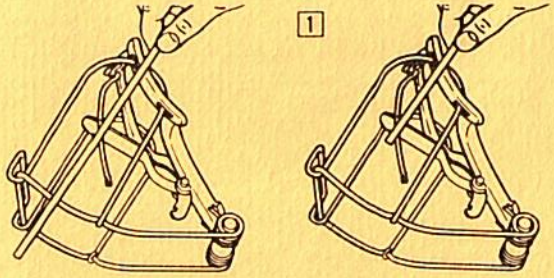




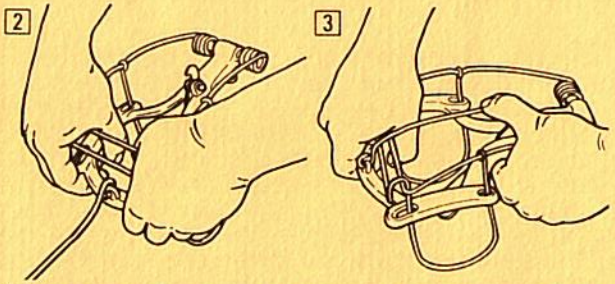
Before you use the Nash Choker Loop Trap take a few minutes to read this pamphlet. You will find the information helpful.

TRAPPING THE EASTERN VARIETY MOLE

Test for an active mole run 24 hours before setting the trap. Step down once on each of several different runs. The damaged tunnels on active runs should show signs of repair within 24 hours.

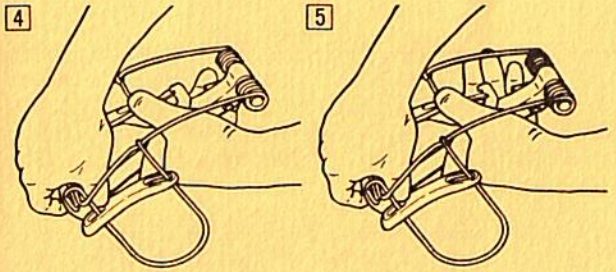


[1] Using your finger or a slender stick, measure down through the top of the run to the bottom of the tunnel. If this distance is more than the trap will reach underground, try a different location or remove enough soil to allow the trap loops to encircle the tunnel. Fill in the finger hole.



[2] Set the trap by compressing the spring with both hands.

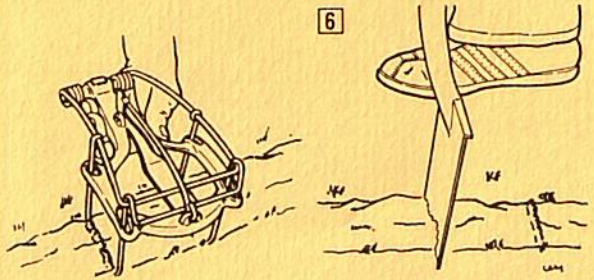
[3] Hold the spring against the trap base with one hand and move the trigger over the spring with the other hand.



[4] Hold the trigger against the trap base with one hand and position the other hand under the spring.

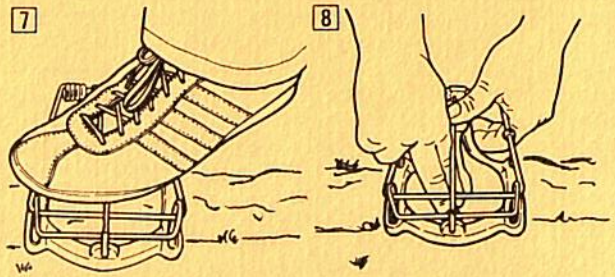
[5] Hold the trigger down with your thumb and place the end of the trigger into the trip pan slot. The trap is now set.

CAUTION: don't place finger or hands between base and loop when trap is set.



[6] Mark the top of the run with the tips of the trap loops. Using a flat spade make two slots at the marks. The slots must be slightly deeper than the tunnel bottom.

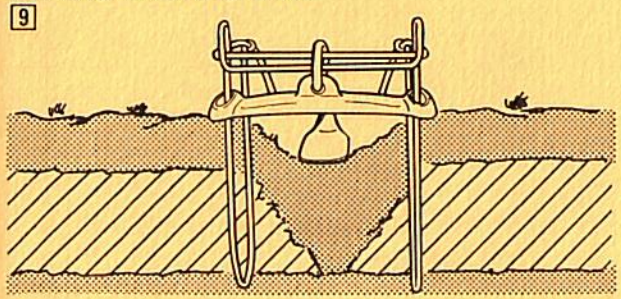
CAUTION: don't place finger or hands between base and loop when trap is set.



[7] Place the trap in the spade slots and push it into the soil with your foot. Before removing your foot, check that the trigger is still in the trip pan slot. If it has slipped out, reach down and reset it.

[8] Reach down with one hand and hold the trigger in the trip pan slot. With the other hand collapse a small part of the tunnel directly under the trip pan.

[9]



[9] Bend the trip pan if necessary so that it just touches the collapsed portion of the tunnel. Release the trigger and the trap is now set.

TRAPPING THE WEST COAST TOWNSEND MOLE

Trapping the West Coast mole is similar to trapping the Eastern variety but there are some differences. West Coast moles generally burrow deeper than East Coast moles and their runs are more difficult to find.

[1] Locate a mole hill and push aside the soil from the entrance.

[2] Push a slender stick down into the hole and attempt to find the direction of the run. If this is not possible, push the stick into the ground in the area of the hole and find the run.

[3] At a spot a few inches from the opening, dig down to the tunnel with a trowel. Make room for the trap.

[4] Make slots for the trap loops. Set the trap using the procedure shown in trapping the Eastern variety mole, Steps 4 through 7.

[5] Place the trap in the pit and make sure the loops encircle the tunnel. Fill in the pit with loose damp earth. Pack the earth somewhat firmer under the trip pan.

[5]