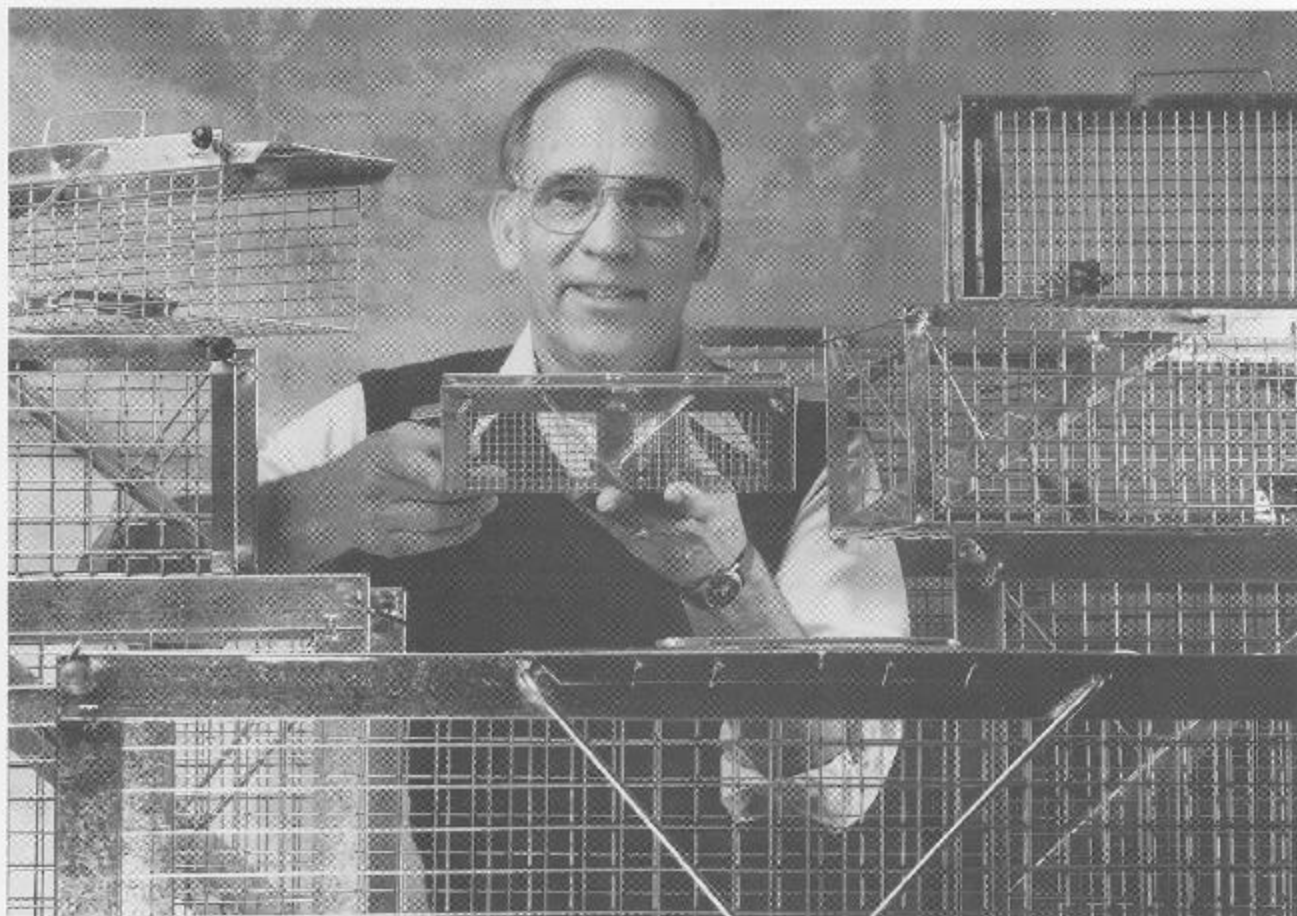


Before jumping into the world of nuisance animal control, pest control operators need to make sure they are fully prepared.

PREPARE

Before Plunging In



Nuisance animal traps come in a variety of shapes and sizes, as Woodstream trapping expert William "Pete" Askins demonstrates.

by Michael M. Goldstein

It seems they are everywhere these days. Squirrels, raccoons, skunks, opossums and rabbits are invading suburbia. In fact, squirrels are the No. 1 invader, while raccoons are 5 to 6 times more prevalent in suburban areas than in the wild.

They get into garbage, eat pet food, inhabit attics and crawl spaces, frighten children, and carry disease. These critters are aptly described as nuisance animals.

Of course, we are partly to blame for the proliferation of these pests. As more and more

people have built homes in the suburbs, we have forced out foxes and other natural predators that once controlled nuisance ani-

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