## ALL-PETS MAGAZINE

#### July, 1940

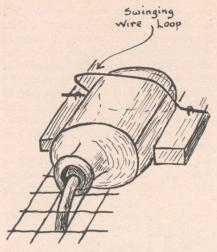


Figure 3. Method of mounting water bottle on horizontal surface.

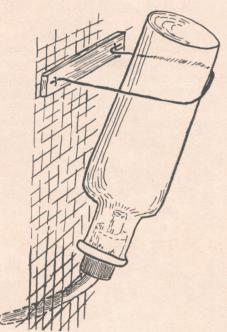
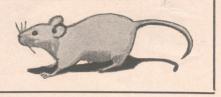


Figure 4. Mounting on vertical surface.

ness. Cavies will speedily chew up glass tubes of single thickness.

With these two devices it is possible to arrange the cages so that all watering and feeding except greens and hay can be done from the outside quickly and easily, thus saving a great deal of the labor which is spent in opening and closing doors, dumping and rinsing feed and water crocks. Much less feed is wasted or made unuseable by the animals.

\* For those interested in the Vitamin content of various green foods I suggest the pamphlet, Vitamin Contents of Foods—Miscel. Pub. Dept. of Agriculture #275 for sale by the Supt. of Documents, Washington, D. C. at 15c. FANCY MICE



### House Mouse Plus White Mouse

Let me begin by confessing that I am no scientist and any experiments I may undertake are not in the cause of science but for my own amusement and to satisfy my own curiosity. Having some Deer Mice and admiring their color, form and enormous eves. I thought it would be fine to cross them with White Mice. After having several Deer Mice killed by White Mice, I gave that up and turned to the common House Mouse and White Mouse cross. Catching a male House Mouse I put him with a female White Mouse and an Orange female.

Mendel's law says that in mating a black and a white rabbit, one of every four young (over an average) will be all white, one all black and two black and white, so I confidently expected about the same from these mice. But something was wrong. All of the first cross were darker than the father and are they wild!

Three females and one male of these were left together, waiting until I was ready to go on with the experiment, and in the meantime along came some young. With no further addition of white blood these turned out to be about half all white, one very pretty cream and the rest almost black. This is as far as I have gone, to date. The second generation of House plus Orange have not arrived.

There is so much interest just now in artificial insemination and it has reached such a stage of efficiency that it seems as if the Deer Mouse— White Mouse cross could be effected that way if one were skillful enough. -F. E. H., Kennebunk, Maine.

# **Aggressive Hamsters**

To B.—A Hamster is a rat-like rodent, variegated in color, and found in Central Europe and Asia. It has large cheek pouches used for carrying food to its burrows. Its life is spent eating and fighting, and has little fear for large animals. It has tremendous holding power in its jaws for so small an animal. In order to release its grip, one must kill the animal. As pets they have little value because of their aggressiveness.

European cities offered bounties for the destruction of hamsters. They are grain eating and will destroy grain crops to acquire a food supply. Some have been known to eat flesh, but on rare occasions. If they are caught with their cheeks full of food. they offer little resistance, but if they sight an adversary first, they empty their cheeks, fill them with inhaled air, and make an attack. The falsely filled cheeks are merely a ruse. Sometimes their coarse short fur is used for trimmings in the European fur trade, but the rabbit has outmoded the hamster in this usefulness.

## **Greenfoods** for Mice

Quite a good useful greenfood which may now be found abundantly is the leaf of the bramble, perhaps better known to many as the blackberry. These leaves may be a little slow in filling the basket as they are not very large, but they are well worth the time they take to gather as they are a very useful supplement food.

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Celery tops and stalks may both be given, provided they are not frosted. Some mice do not seem to relish it at first, but after the first few days they are quite keen on them. Celery may also be cut up in small pieces and placed in a pan to stew on the fire, or in the oven, and then mix it well with bran and serve as a mash, and it is a treat to watch the mice gather round the feeding trough and pick out the shreds of celery and nibble away in no uncertain manner.

