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## MOUSE CONTROL IN MY ORCHARD

Everett Lutz

Lawndale, NC

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## MOUSE CONTROL IN MY ORCHARD

Everett Lutz - Apple Grower  
Route 3, Lawndale, North Carolina

I am Everett Lutz, an apple grower from Lawndale, North Carolina. I have been in the apple growing business for thirty nine (39) years. I have seventy five (75) acres in apple trees. We have had all kinds of problems in this business, but among our major problems are Eastern Pine and Meadow Voles. There is no need to elaborate on the damage they can do. Everyone in the orchard business knows the destruction caused by voles. They can completely eradicate an orchard. For twenty (20) years or more we have used Endrin to solve the vole problem. It has done an excellent job. Without this chemical we would have been out of business.

We have seen no bad effects or any damage to wildlife in these twenty (20) years. Quail nest and raise in the orchard in abundance. Rabbits also raise their young here. We live surrounded by the apple trees and our dogs and cats roam the orchard. We do not confine them when we spray. About one-half of our orchard joins a pond on the farm. The run-off water from the orchards drains into the pond. We have seen no fish kill here. The ponds are stocked with Bass and Brim.

If Endrin is taken off the market voles will destroy the trees we have spent a life time to grow and therefore our livelihood will be reduced to nothing. We have tried poison bait but this seems to have no effect on the Eastern Pine and Meadow Vole. There is nothing on the market now to replace Endrin in effectiveness.

I sincerely hope that everyone in authority will consider these facts:

- (1) Endrin is the only chemical the grower has to combat these voles.
- (2) The orchardist will be forced out of business without Endrin.
- (3) There is no danger to wildlife with this chemical.