

NATHAN & JENNIFER WINOGRAD

August 15, 2011

Minh Tsai
Hodo Soy Beanery
2923 Adeline Street
Oakland, CA 94608

Dear Mr. Tsai,

Thank you responding to our concerns regarding the use of glue traps in your facility. However, contrary to your assertion, there is no need for you to use glue traps or any other lethal means of rodent control in your tofu factory. Were there to be rodents present in your facility, the law would require you to address that issue, but how you do that is entirely up to you. And if, upon inspection, there is no evidence of rodents in your facility, you would not be required to do anything.

The most humane and effective method of rodent control is to deter them from entering your facility in the first place by fully rodent-proofing. This would entirely eliminate the need for any further action on your part. Unfortunately, most "pest" control companies rely on the constant and continual application of traps, glues and spray pesticides in order to bill you for them. A "pest control" company would not necessarily make you aware of this option, as it would permanently seal your facility and make any further action on their part unnecessary. In other words, they would not get paid every month.

As we mentioned in our first letter, glue traps are incredibly cruel. According to one organization,

[T]rapped mice struggling to free themselves would pull out their own hair, exposing bare, raw areas of skin. The mice broke or even bit off their own legs, and the glue caused their eyes to become badly irritated and scarred. After three to five hours in the glue traps, the mice defecated and urinated heavily because of their severe stress and fear, and quickly became covered with their own excrement. Animals whose faces become stuck in the glue slowly suffocate, and all trapped animals are subject to starvation and dehydration. It takes anywhere from three to five days for the mouse to finally die. This is nothing less than torture.

It should come as no surprise that many of your consumers are vegetarians and vegans who have sworn off animal products in order to reduce animal suffering and killing. Do you believe they would embrace this? We would like to give you one more opportunity to ensure us that they will be removed immediately from your facility.

Very truly yours,