

HOTWOOD'S

Our Business is your Stability

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This information is designed to help you thoroughly understand how Coon Cuffs work. We have tried to list all the information we have learned from using this trap the last seven years. *For best results bed trap in firm soil. The use of the Coon Cuff auger ensures uniform hole size.*

P = Problem
R = Reason
S = Solution

#1) P: COON CUFF WAS TRIPPED BUT NOT MOVED FROM HOLE ON DRY GROUND.

R: Mouse sets off trap when working bait, or dirt or debris was knocked into the trap.

S: Reset trap and make sure it is at an angle (about 45 degrees works best) with the trigger pointing up.

This will keep debris from setting off the trap and will let mice run on either side of trigger instead of tripping the trap.

#2) P: COON CUFF WAS PULLED FROM HOLE AND NOT TRIPPED OFF.

R: Trap was not bedded firmly or chain was located by coon.

S: Reset trap and make sure dirt or mud is tightly packed around front of trap and blended in. Make sure the chain is also packed tight and covered on dry ground or water. Even bedding the chain above the trap on dry land helps. Some trappers drill holes on either side of front washer and stake with small metal stakes or gutter spikes to hold trap solid.

#3) P: COON CUFF WAS PULLED FROM HOLE AND TRIPPED.

R: Same as #2. However, coon may have worked a small amount of lure or bait on the back of the trap tripping it after it is pulled out.

S: Same as #2.

#4) P: BAIT MISSING FROM TRAP.

R: Mice have eaten the bait or hole is not deep enough.

S: Try a different bait or lure. Raccoon cannot get at bait without getting caught.

Lure can be added without remaking set. Hole must be 12" to 14" deep.

#5) P: YOU CATCH RACCOON IN A SET AND THEN YOU CAN'T CATCH MORE.

R: Animal scent was left around set on dry land.

S: It is helpful to move the set five feet to 10 feet from the original set and your catch will improve.

#6) P: YOU HAVE A RACCOON THAT KEEPS FLIPPING YOUR LEGHOLDS OVER OR TRIPPING THEM OFF.

R: The raccoon is feeling along the bottom for food and just pulls the trap out on the road to get at your bait.

S: Pull your leghold and replace with a Coon Cuff. You will catch the coon.

#7: P: LEGHOLD TRAPS ARE BEING FROZEN IN BY SKIM ICE AND COON ARE NOT BEING CAUGHT.

R: Legholds are not effective under these conditions.

S: The coon are still there. By using Coon Cuffs your sets work longer in freezing weather. Sometimes the weather will warm again and then your sets are still working. We have tracked muddy coon tracks down the ice and found the coon caught in Coon Cuffs.

#8: P: COON CUFF IS PULLED OUT OF BANK IN WATER SET.

R: Trap was not bedded in solid bank.

S: If bank is too soft, the trap will move when the coon are working the set. They will also step on the chain through the soft mud and use it to pull trap out. Your hole may also collapse around the back of the trap covering the bait and plugging up the back of trap. Note: Always set all traps in solid ground.

#9: P: WATER LEVELS ARE GOING UP AND DOWN AND THIS MAKES LEGHOLD TRAPPING NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE.

S: Set Coon Cuff above the highest water level and use a trailing scent from the edge of water to your set.

#10: P: COONS ARE PASSING BY COON CUFF SET FLAT IN THE GROUND.

R: Traps set flat are not noticed as easily by coon because the hole is not in a direct line of their sight. You must also always use a strong lure and bait.

S: Always set your trap at least at a 45-degree angle so it can be seen from coon trail.

#11: P: IN WATER SET, COON TRACKS ARE VISIBLE ON THE BANK NEXT TO THE COON CUFF OPENING, MAKING IT LOOK LIKE COON IS TRAP SHY.

R: Unlike legholds coon will only be caught if coon works your bait. Coon also may not be hungry at that time.

S: Always use a good bait and lure. Change up from time to time. The lure is the key here. Most good lures have between five to 10 different scents or ingredients. Therefore, giving the coon a lot to sniff at. Always make sure your lure goes behind your trap. A sight appeal may also help at times. Something white or shiny. Like egg shells, etc.

#12: P: YOU ARE HAVING TROUBLE MAKING THE RIGHT SIZE HOLE.

S: Use the Coon Cuff auger. It is faster than digging with anything else and makes the hole the right size for the trap to fit in. Just a little snug. You can also gauge your depth easier — usually 12 inches to 14 inches is best so the coon has to reach for the bait. The auger for the most part is the only tool you need. Works great for all your trapline needs.

#13: P: RAIN MAKES IT HARD TO SET LEGHOLD TRAP ON DRY GROUND.

S: A Coon Cuff can be set anywhere and works just as good when packed with mud. You can also set the trap in the side of the bank so water will have little effect on it. In freezing weather, we often set under bridges etc. Even if it is wet and snowy, Coon Cuffs will continue to work there.

#14: P: YOU ARE USING LEGHOLDS AND YOU WANT TO CATCH COON IN ONE LOCATION AND MOVE IT TO A DIFFERENT AREA.

S: Use Coon Cuffs. They do very little damage to the coon's foot. Coon are also very easy to take out of trap. Simply noose off coon, step on chain next to trap, and use your free hand to remove the coon. This can be done easily by pushing pan in with T stake or wood dowel keeping your hands away from captured animal. We have had reports of some ADC people taking 50-60 coon inside city limits and transplanting them to areas in the country.

#15: P: YOU NEED AN EFFECTIVE TRAP FOR CATCHING BARN RATS WHERE POISON OR OTHER MEANS CAN'T BE USED.

S: Use a Coon Cuff. It is an excellent killer trap for barn rats. When worked, the pan catches rats behind the head killing the rat almost immediately. Plus, it still has all the same benefits as when trapping coon.

NOTE: This trap eliminates wasted time from catching nontarget animals. If you have four Coon Cuffs set in one location they will keep in working order until you catch coon. Coon Cuffs can be used in many more areas especially around farmsteads that have dogs and cats. A landowner who is aware of how Coon Cuffs work, will be quicker to give permission.

The two most asked questions by customers.

1. P: What type of preparation does the trap need before setting.

S: Coon Cuffs now come adjusted and ready to go right out of the box. Just add staking or drownder rigging or we will rig your traps to your specifications. Although we recommend using log-wood dye for a natural protection you can use Speed Dip or wax as long as the trigger notch and edge of pan are kept clean so the trap does not quick fire. Treat Coon Cuffs no different than you would any other trap. Parts for Coon Cuffs can only be ordered direct from Blue Valley Trap Supply. Update: We now recommend N/B Formula One as the best coating to be used on Coon Cuffs.

2. P. What type of bait or lure can be used with Coon Cuffs.

S: Any bait or lure that you now use. We recommend the following. Mix and match as you prefer.

Grawes: Coon Lure, Sweet Pete Coon Bait

Cavens: Hiawatha Valley Predator Bait, Minnesota Brand Coon and Mink Bait,

Minnesota Special, Moon Shine

Sterling's: The Ultimate Coon Lure, the Ultimate Coon Bait

Hawbak's: Coon Lure

Blackie's Blend: Fur King (Sweet Paste), Fatal Attraction, Thumbs Up, Main Squeeze, Salmon Oil, Night Bandit, Shellfish Oil, Boars Delight

Blue Valley: Coon Lure and Bait, Shellfish Oil, Crawdad Oil, Fish Oil, Salmon Oil, Fresh Ground Fish, Fresh Crawdad past bait, Candy Corn Lure.

We feel that it is important to use an ample amount of lure and bait at each set. Change from time to time to catch raccoon's attention. We do feel that there are plenty of other effective bait and lures on the market, but the above listings have been tested with Coon Cuffs with very good results. Place all lure and bait behind traps. Any lure or attractors placed outside trap will possibly cause coon to dig up trap.