



## Question of the Week

**Q:** How come I still have moles in my lawn even though I treat the soil for grubs every year?

**A:** Many homeowners are confused by conflicting “advice” on mole control. For example, pesticide advertisements sometimes lead consumers to believe that white grubs are a mole’s chief source of food, which the manufacturer suggests their product will control. But *earthworms* make up 80 percent to 90 percent of a mole’s daily diet, which the mole rounds with millipedes, ants, pillbugs and other insects found around home foundations, rocks and landscaping timbers.

In short, eliminating grubs won’t control moles!

Trapping is the most effective and practical method of getting rid of moles. Among the various mole traps on the market, three types have proven most effective: harpoon, scissor-jaw, and choker loop. The traps need to be set over a depressed portion of the surface tunnel. As a mole moves through the tunnel, it pushes upward on the depressed tunnel roof and trips the trap’s trigger pan. Trapping works best in the spring and fall, especially after a good rain. To ensure safe and humane deployment of mole traps, make sure to follow printed instructions.

Got questions? UNH Cooperative Extension's Family, Home & Garden Education Center Info Line offers practical help finding answers for your lawn and garden questions. Call toll free at 1-877-398-4769, M-F, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., or e-mail us at [answers@unh.edu](mailto:answers@unh.edu)