

Voiles and moles are both small animals that burrow underground and damage lawns and gardens. Determining which one of these animals is causing the damage is the first step in deciding on a control strategy. Some gardens may have both voles and moles.

The major difference between moles and voles is in their eating habits. Voiles eat all kinds of roots, bulbs and tubers, including shrub and tree roots. Moles are primarily carnivorous and their diet is grubs, worms and other insects of all kinds. Voiles are typically active in landscape and garden beds and not likely to be noticed until plants begin to die with extensive damage to their roots. Moles are more commonly active in lawn areas, where their burrowing and tunneling cause raised mounted areas and occasional holes, as they search for insects.

Voiles resemble moles and are about 4 to 5 inches long with a very short tail, ½ to 5/8 inches long. They are chestnut brown in color and produce about 3 offspring at a time several times a year. The young are ready to mate in two months. Voiles can rapidly establish large colonies. Moles are slightly larger, up to 6" long and mate once each year with 2-3 offspring. They are territorial and usually number only a few per acre, but, are capable of tunneling over 100' per day.

CONTROL

Use one or both of the following:

1. **Repellents:** This is the easiest and least hazardous way to deter moles. Either spray, or, apply repellent granules, throughout the area being damaged by moles and flush it into the soil by watering immediately after application. Repeat as needed.
2. **Barriers:** Vole Bloc can be placed in the soil to form a barrier around plant roots or bulbs. Vole Bloc is a natural, stone material and one application lasts indefinitely.
3. **Poison:** Locate the tunnels and cut an opening in the top. Place about two tablespoons of Mole Tox or any other mole poison bait into the tunnel. Do this every twenty feet or so along the tunnel. Or, place two or three permanent bait stations in the flower garden area under attack. Place a wooden slab near the tunnel opening and put the poison bait under the slab.
4. **Traps:** Place mole traps over the active tunnels or to control voiles, use mousetraps baited with peanut butter or raw bacon.

ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW LABEL DIRECTIONS WHEN USING PESTICIDES.

MERRIFIELD

8132 Lee Highway
Merrifield, VA 22116
703-560-6222

FAIR OAKS

12101 Lee Highway
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-968-9600

GAINESVILLE

6895 Wellington Road
Gainesville, VA 20156
703-368-1919



DEER MOUSE



MEADOW VOLE



HAIRY-TAILED MOLE



SHORT-TAILED SHREW