

CONTROL METHODS AROUND DWELLINGS

TIMMS TRAP

The Timms kill trap is recommended. It can be safely used around homes.

- **WHERE TO SET THE TRAP**

Traps should be set on a level surface where possums forage.

- **BAIT**

Use a quarter of apple. Ensure the bait is fresh and firm. Sprinkle powdered five spice, cinnamon or cloves onto the apple to arouse the possum's interest. Do not use baits that may attract cats, such as meat or fish.

- **SETTING THE TRAP**

Turn the trap upside down and push the apple onto the bait rod as far as the bend. Place the trap the right way up. Press down on the top of the trap while pulling the nylon cord with your other hand, until the striker bar locks into position.

- **REMOVING A DEAD POSSUM**

Pull the nylon cord to release the pressure on the striker bar and pull the possum free. Dead possums can be dug into the garden as compost. Otherwise place the dead possum in a plastic bag, secure the top and place in your domestic rubbish bag.

- **UNSETTING A TRAP**

Trigger the trap by smacking the sides of the trap heavily with your open palms.

A trap can be set on a wood block to avoid catching hedgehogs

Keep your fingers clear of the keyhole at all times!

Traps can be purchased from the Wellington Regional Council. They are also available from hardware and farm produce stores.

