

GETTING TO KNOW...

"The Polynesian Rat invasion is confirmed."

This was the message Senior Foreman Sabirin Mohd Sadli sent when he serviced a Client's premises in Jurong. In his 20 years servicing the Jurong area, this is the first time he has seen a dead Polynesian Rat, *Rattus exulans* in his service zone.

It is the third most widespread species of rat in the world, after the Norway Rat, *Rattus norvegicus* and the Roof Rat, *Rattus rattus*.

It is recognized by its slender body, pointed snout, large ears and relatively small delicate feet. It is brown in colour with a whitish belly. It lives in the grasslands and jungles but with our rapid urbanisation, it will find it easier to move in and live alongside Man.

