The 4-week old rats are trained to be at ease in their surroundings and with human interaction.

They now learn to distinguish between TNT-positive and TNT-negative tea-eggs. The rats will only hear a click and get a reward if they interact with the TNT-positive tea-eggs.

Finally, before being deployed to an operational site, the rats must pass a blind test. To become a HeroRAT they have to find all target landmines in a 400 m² area, making no more than one false indication.

The rats learn to work in soil trays placed outdoors in different environmental conditions. They wear a rat-sized harness for the first time and the TNT-positive tea eggs are buried in soil.

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