

CAPTURING INSECTS.

Insects are adept at evading or escaping predators and can easily evade our clumsy efforts. There are many methods of capturing insects, and any one is acceptable as long as it is safe and does not damage the insect.

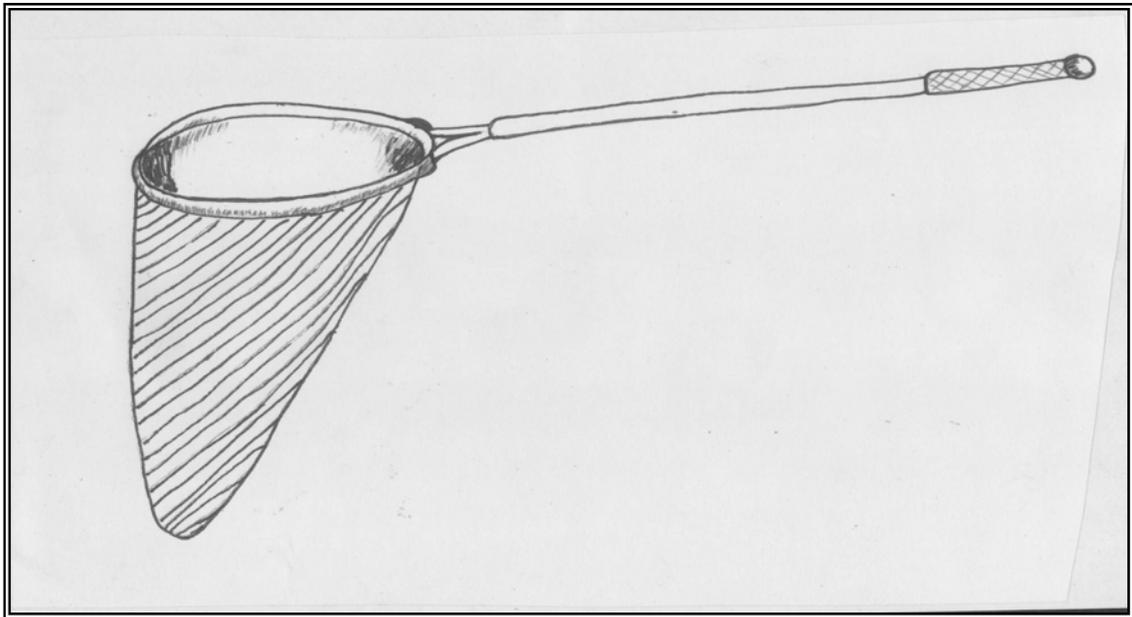
Here are the basic **tools** and **traps** for capturing the insect.

❖ Tools:

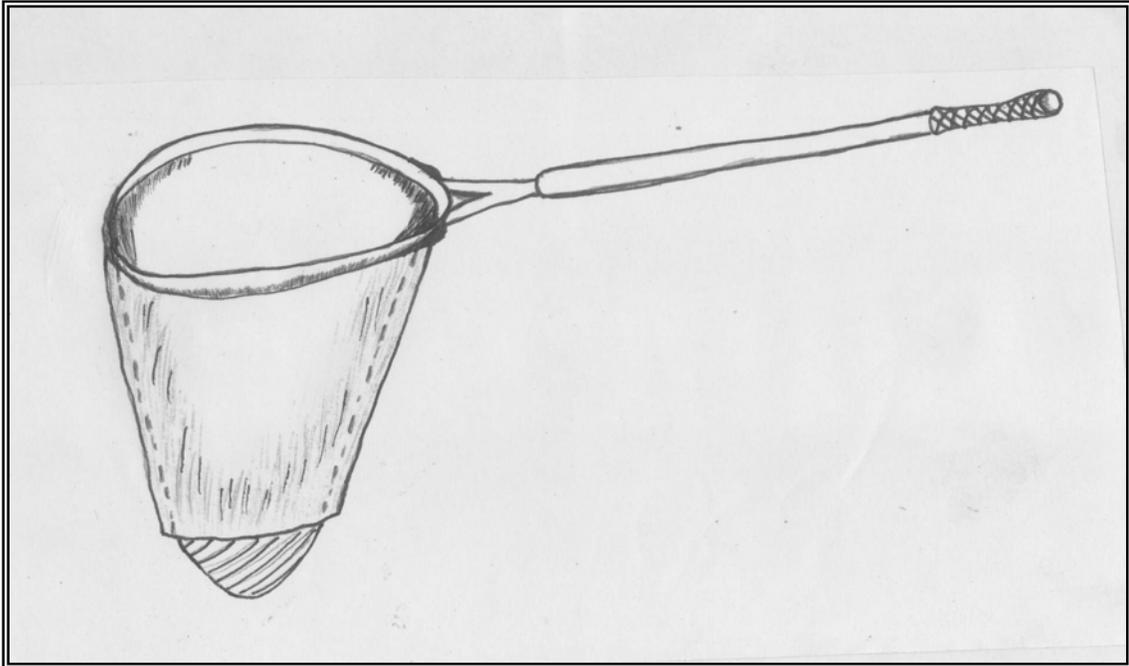
1. NETS,

There are three basic types;

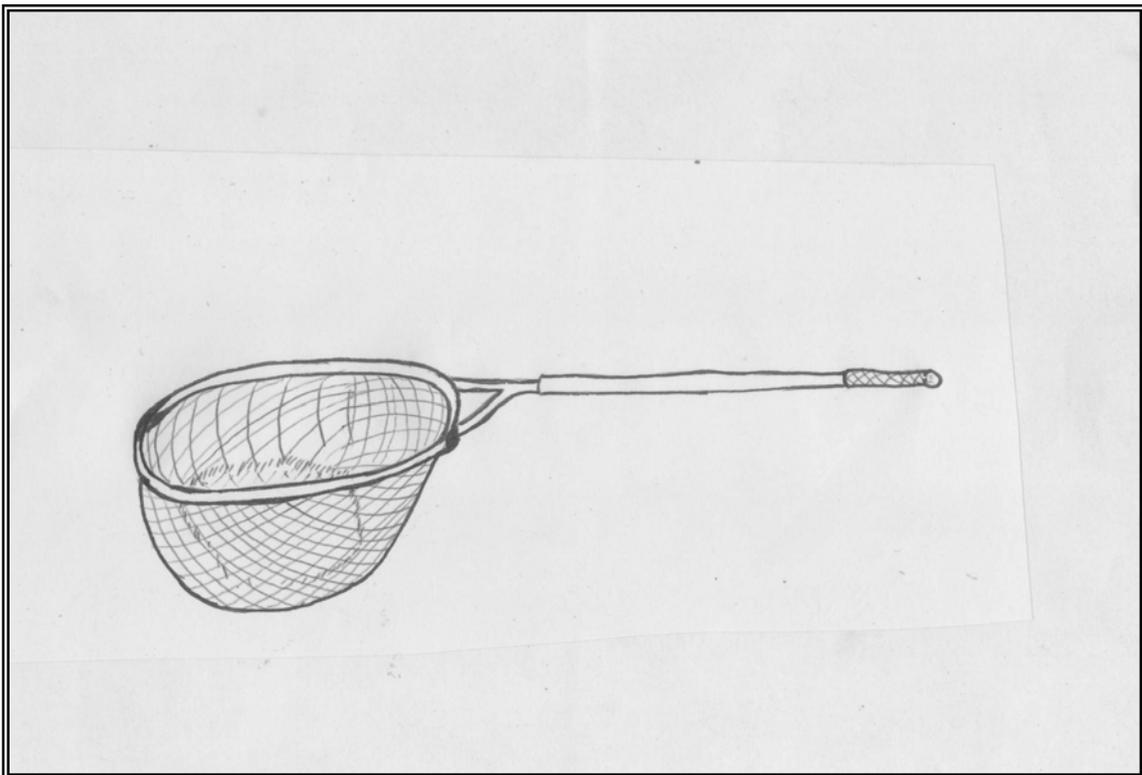
- *Aerial Net*; it is a long sack of soft nylon, organdy, or silk netting which is used for netting flying insects out of the air and will not normally damage specimens.



- **Sweeping net**, is made of heavy white muslin or canvas and is used with a sweeping motion to capture unseen insects in tall grass or weeds.

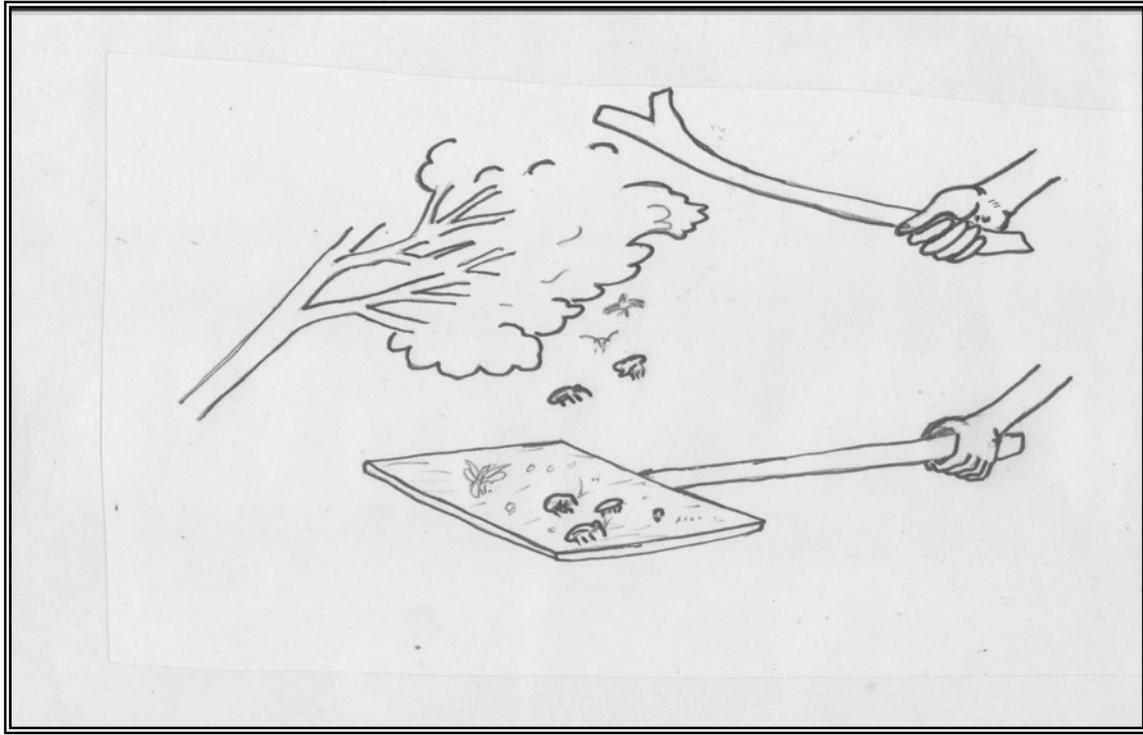


- **Deep net**, is a long handled tool used to capture aquatic insects.



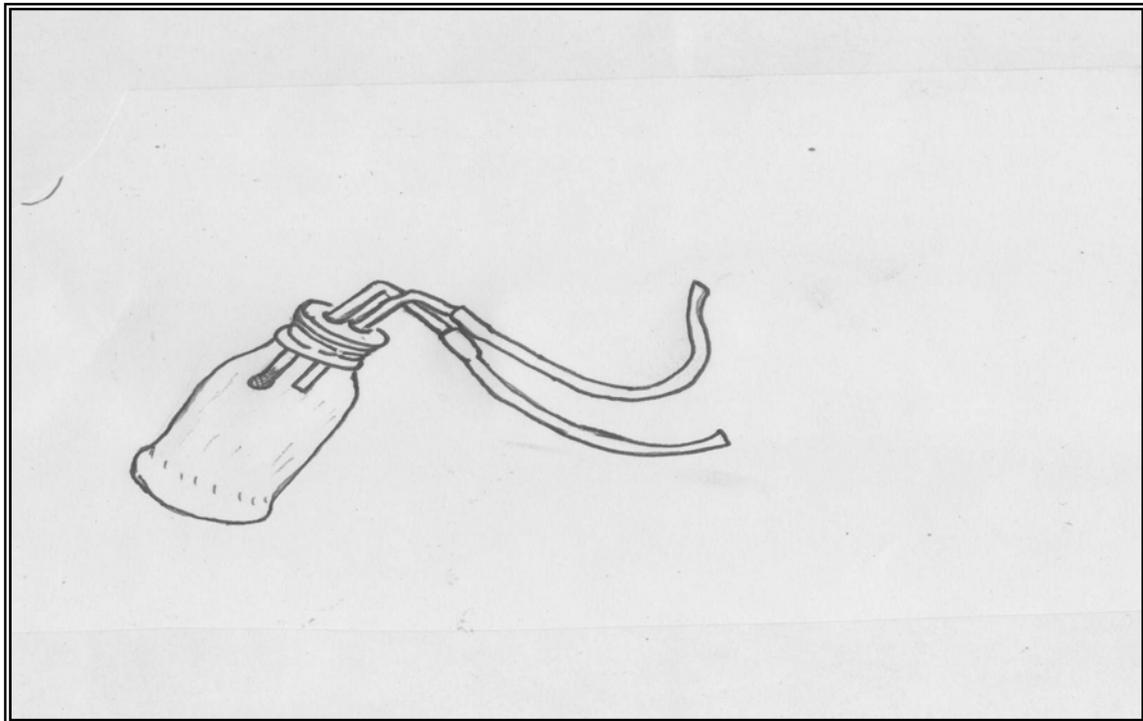
2. BEATING TRAY,

This is a simple affair made of white cloth stretched over a frame of two crossed sticks. Can be held or placed under a shrub or tree branch. And while you are beating the plant, the refuge insects will fall onto the beating tray and can then be collected by hand or other means.



3. ASPIRATOR,

Some insects are so small or too fast, that they cannot be easily collected by hand or with a net, for these, the best method is a use of aspirator, by which you can manually suck the insects into a small vial.

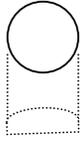


❖ **Traps:**

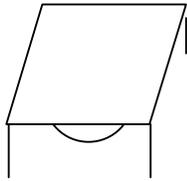
1. PITFALL TRAP,

Pitfall traps are effective in catching insects that scurry across the ground rather than fly.

1,

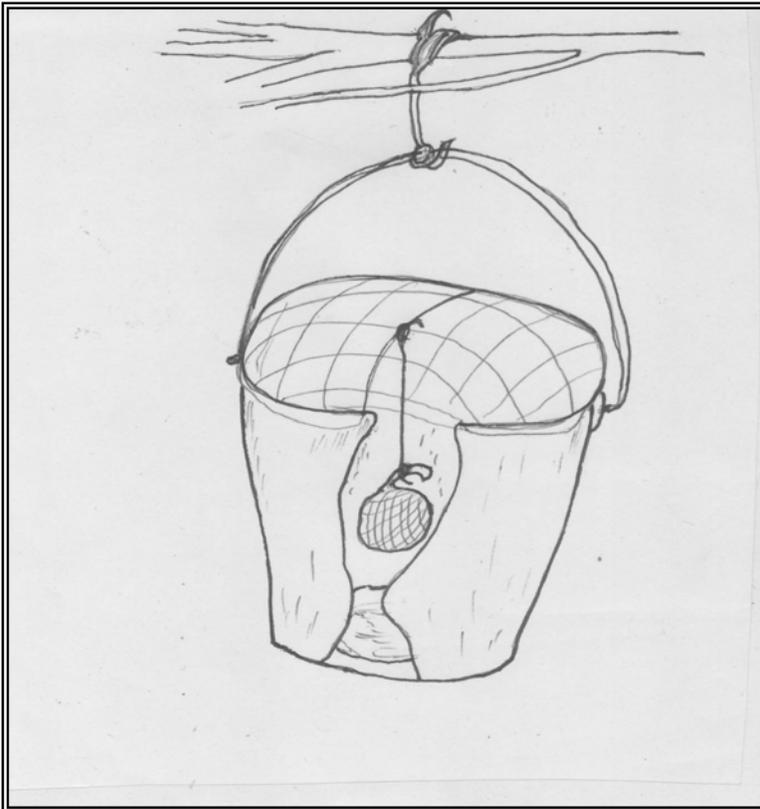


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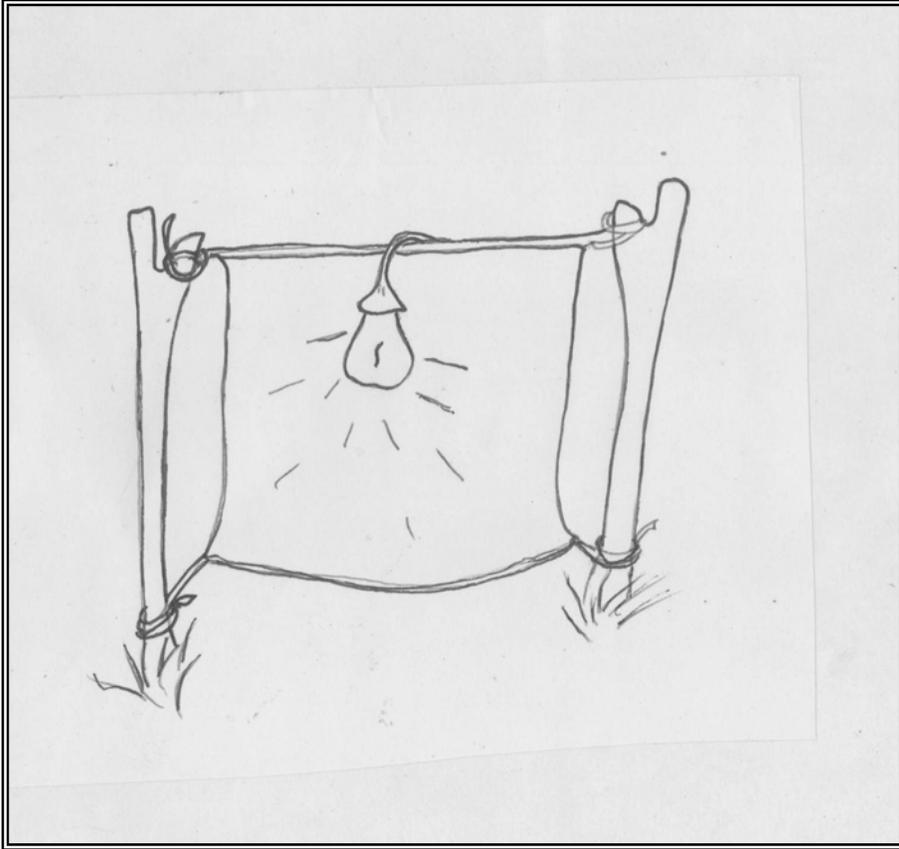
BAIT TRAP,

It is any trap which uses some attractants (e.g. meat, fruit, sugar) to lure the insect from surrounding. One example is a container suspended from a tree branch, which is securely covered with a large mesh screen with openings about 2 square cm to admit the insects which are searching for food, and can be lured in the bait.



. LIGHT TRAP,

There are many different types of light traps. Perhaps the simplest is white sheet tied at all four corners and suspended vertically, with the fluorescent bulb shining on it. Insects may fly on the sheet and can be scooped off with an aerial net, hand collecting, or other means, which are useful.



These are some basics of capturing the insect which can enable you to make better collections.

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