

How to make butterfly traps at a low cost



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Materials for trap

How to make a butterfly trap at low cost

Materials needed:

1. 2 Embroidery rings - 14 inch or 16 inch
2. Netting (hard netting or mosquito net (circumference of ring + 10cm))
3. Glue (clear glue/hot glue)
4. Flat plate (plastic/plywood)
5. Bowl for bait
6. Safety pins



Instructions:

1. Cut the net to height of about 1.5 meter and width of circumference of hoop + 10cm
2. Take the inner hoop of the embroidery hoop and wrap one end of the net around it so that the net overlaps, at about 10 cm from the edge. Place the outer hoop over the net and inner hoop and tighten the screw. Repeat the same at other side, but about 40 cm from end of the net. This takes a bit of practice and is easier for two people to do both sides at once. Tie the top tightly to get a flat head (tying it tight will reduce the problem of moths and butterflies getting stick in the top).
3. Tie a rope tightly under the knot in the netting and hang the trap.
4. With loosened screws you can adjust the hoops so that the hoops hang nicely horizontal, and the netting is straight. Once you do point 2 carefully, there is hardly a need for this.
5. Use (safety) pins to close any holes in the top and along the side where the fabric overlaps. Glue the fabric focusing on making sure butterflies cannot get out. The lower part of the side can be left unglued so that it is easier to remove live butterflies through this slid. Remove the (safety) pins.
6. Make 3 evenly spaced holes along the edge of a plastic plate. You can use a sharp knife or scissors. If you heat the knife (in a flame) it will be easier.
7. Make 3 holes in the netting at the lower hoop, and attach the plate to the bottom hoop with pieces of rope (ca 30 cm).

40 cm of net tied tightly to make a flat top. Tightening the rope will making it even tighter.

Glue the netting on the side.

The outside only needs a bit of glue

Lower part doesn't need to be glued if you plan to take out butterflies alive.

Make sure to glue the top

Too much overlap wastes material

The plate should be straight so that bait doesn't fall out

