

357 Pigeon Hawk
 360 Sparrow Hawk
 372 Saw-whet Owl
 373 Screech Owl
 387 Yellow-billed Cuckoo
 388 Black-billed Cuckoo

Walter Bigger (N.J.)
 Stuart A. Henderson (Mass.)
 Lt. & Mrs. M.C. Morse (Maine)
 Stuart A. Henderson (Mass.)
 Ralph K. Bell (Penna.)
 Mabel Warburton (N.J.)

Mrs. Lillian Cardinali, RD 2, Box 460, Jamesburg, N.J.

HOW THEY DO IT

Being Hints for New Banders (and Reminders for Veterans) from back issues of EBBA NEWS

OUR BANDING TRICKS by Dorothy L. Bordner (Nov-Dec 1957, p. 88): If perches are placed directly over the entrances to large all-purpose traps, fewer birds escape. Most birds will hop onto the perch as they go from one end of the trap to the other. Therefore, they don't run on the ground in a position to notice the opening.

We have used the small, ground-opening trip-step traps along with our large all-purpose traps with good results. The trip-steps work very well on the ground near our feeder in winter, but catch very few birds in the same position in other seasons. After watching birds walk all around the top of our all-purpose trap looking unsuccessfully for an entrance, we placed two trip-steps on it. We have caught many different species in these traps including several that we never got in the all-purpose trap. Also, placing a two-cell trip-step trap at the end of an all-purpose trap catches some birds that are too dumb (or smart) to find the entrances to the large trap.

Sometimes natural food will cause birds to concentrate in a certain area. For example, an early ripening cherry tree will bring in robins, catbirds, and other from blocks around. By placing traps under the tree and putting all the dropped fruit into the traps, a large percentage of these birds can be caught. We have extended the cherry season by freezing the wormy cherries (unseeded) and using them for bait after the fruit is gone from the tree. The frozen fruit will stay bright red colored for several hours and will attract birds for some time afterward. Wild cherries and choke cherries make good bait too.

Many times, watching the behavior of birds in and around traps can suggest ways of increasing the efficiency of the trapping operation.

A NEW BAND HOLDER by Stephen W. Simon (May-June 1956, p. 41): This holder is useful for large banding operations, is based in the idea that bands may be added on one end and taken off the other without removing those left

the holder. It can hold over a full string of the smaller size bands, utilizing the same space in the banding kit or one's pocket as the safety pin holder.



It is very simply constructed with a thin coat-hanger wire small enough to accept O's. Cut the hook and neck from the hanger. The piece of wire left is made into a double 7-inch loop with the two long ends of the wire wrapped around the long side of the loop. The end that will be used for adding new bands is wrapped around twice while the end from which the bands will be removed is wrapped only once. This end is made a little longer to distinguish it from the other end.

For the sizes other than O's the copper wire of the string of bands can be overlapped with the holder wire and the bands easily slip from one to the other. This is not possible with O's unless someone finds than the one used in this case. For O's a glass drinking straw can be placed over the holder wire and the string of bands inserted through the other end of the straw. The bands pass through the straw, and onto the holder wire. It is hoped that others will also find this holder useful and practical.

A WATER DRIP SYSTEM by Marie Dumont (July-August 1957, p. 58): Here is a suggestion for a good way to have a constant water drip for traps, though I must admit it's not a very cheap affair. I saw this method in operation at the home of Mrs. Beals, in Elmhurst, Long Island. Her husband had obtained copper tubing and connected it to an outdoor water faucet. He then ran a length of the tubing to various spots in the back yard, which incidentally had a goodly number of trees to which the tubing could be wired high enough above the ground to permit walking underneath.

At each spot where a water supply was needed a petcock was soldered, so a drop of water could be released or a larger amount if necessary. This was a permanent affair and in cold weather could be drained to prevent freezing and bursting of piping. It was the best thing I ever saw, as it never needed attention except if one wanted to be away, and then it could just be turned off at the main source of supply.

HERBICIDES UNDER BIRD BANDING TRAPS by Merrill Wood (Nov-Dec 1957, p. 89): The all-purpose trap in a back yard banding station seems to function better if used on ground free of vegetation. For this condition banders use

sand, sawdust, coal ashes and/or frequent use of a hoe. To accomplish this with less work a herbicide was tested.

On June 18, 1957 the ground (10 x 6 feet) in and around an all-purpose trap was freed of all vegetation and then was sprayed from a flower watering can with two pounds of DuPont Ammate (active ingredient ammonium sulfamate 80%) in four gallons of water. The cost of this treatment was \$1.15.

At the end of the growing season, October 18, 1957, the treated area had five small weeds. An adjacent control area became thoroughly covered with plants and had to be weeded with a hoe four times, July 13, Aug. 3, Aug. 26 and Oct 18. The lack of hoeing under the trap was appreciated.

However, while the use of a herbicide in this place seemed useful, it was discovered it should be used only with great care. The poison used must be watered in thoroughly the day after applied since it is toxic to birds, and all birds must be kept off for the first two days that the herbicide is sinking into the soil. Also, there must not be any tree roots under this treated ground or that part of the tree so supplied will die. In this experiment one robin went onto the treated ground the second day where it ate food and died, going through a pattern similar to birds dying from DDT poisoning. Birds that were in the trap on the third day repeated on future days.

 PICTURE Your picture (either photo or drawing) may be just the one to
 CONTEST win the prize of two mist nets (or a \$5.00 trap). Pictures
 must be suitable for publication in EBBA NEWS -- and a prize
 will be awarded for the best illustration in each issue. The Editors
 will be the judges (judges and Ebba officers are not eligible.)

FOR SALE
 To EBBA Members Only

MULTI-CELL GATHERING CAGES

Light weight, wooden, beautifully finished with spar varnish. These boxes are made to order with costs of material and small labor charges by hobbyist. Prices are as follows:

8 cell . . .	\$10.00
10 cell . . .	12.50
12 cell . . .	15.00
15 cell . . .	18.75
16 cell . . .	20.00

May be ordered through Treasurer. Will be shipped collect.