

METHODS OF CATCHING AND STUDYING BREEDING WADERS - AN ADDENDUM

G.H. Green and P.N. Ferns, illustrated by R.H. Bishop

Since writing on this subject in *Wader Study Group Bulletin* No 16 we have received a number of enquiries about trapping methods. We are therefore publishing here several drawings (by R.H. Bishop), which are eventually destined for the report of the Joint Biological Expedition to NE Greenland 1974, of traps used successfully in Greenland.

Fig 1 shows a heart shaped cage trap - size about 40-50 cm diameter - set over a nest.

Fig 2 shows an elastic powered clap net (developed by G.P. Mudge) which was also very successful. Some experimentation may be required to find the best point of attachment of elastic to pole to give fastest operation when the net is released. The net measures 100-150 cm square.

Fig 3 shows a simple manually operated drop-door trap measuring about 40 x 40 x 60 cm.

Fig 4 shows a single pole clap net. This type can be used for trapping at the nest but is less satisfactory than the three other traps. Measures about 2 x 1 m.

It must be re-emphasised (see previous note) that trapping at the nest should only be attempted after incubation has become established and that each catching attempt should last only about 15 minutes. If it fails give up and try again later perhaps using a different method. Catching should not be attempted in cold wet weather.

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