The frog platform has an upstanding lip or flange **94** formed by the frame **94.** This helps retain any minnows, insects or other food which might be deposited on the platform for the frogs to eat. Alternatively, the flange can be omitted in order to permit the frogs to climb on and off the platform more easily.

The cage **86** is of square cross-section (see FIG. 7) as is the platform. It is believed that frogs will not bunch up in the corners because the corners are in the water. However, if the frogs do bunch up, the cage **86** can be given a circular shape, as can the platform. An alternative shape for the platform is a ledge extending around the periphery of the round cage, with a hole in the middle for the frogs to swim in.

If desired, frogs can be raised in the cage **86** from the egg or tadpole stage to full size, without the need for the traditional hatching and tadpole rearing pond. The frog platform can be removed until the tadpoles have changed into frogs. However, it is believed that cages extending deeper into the water, such as those shown in FIGS. **1** and **2,** (without forage fish entrances) are more suited to the needs of tadpoles; needs which are quite similar to those of fish. The tadpoles can be transferred to the more shallow cages **86** with platforms when they have changed into frogs.

The feeding of insects to frogs in caged enclosures can be performed on land as well as in floating cages. A land-based frog culture structure **102** is shown in FIG. **8.** The structure **102** includes a known circular frog culture tank **103,** a roof, and an insect feeder **72** feeding insects into the enclosure formed by the tank **103** and roof **104.** A screened ventilation gap **105** is provided between the roof and tank.

The tank **103** includes a peripheral ledge (not shown) and a central water pool with filling and drain conduits, none of which is shown in FIG. **8.** The details of tank **103** are shown in U.S. Pat. No. 2,126,056.

Live insects are fed into the enclosure and spread toward the side walls by a conical baffle **107.** The frogs catch the insects as they fly near them, or when they fall after colliding with the wall of the tank.

FIG. **8** also illustrates the feeding of insects in the tank culture of fish. In this embodiment, the tank **103** is a conventional fish tank with water supply, drain, aerators, etc., all as are well known. Insects are blown down onto the surface of the water in the tank where they are eaten by the fish in the water.

FIGS. **9** and **10** show a buoyant cage **108** with a static insect collector **102;** that is, a collector with no moving parts. The cage has the usual frame **110,** "feed-ring" board **111,** wire mesh **112,** covers **114, 116** and **118,** and floats **130.**

The collector **120** includes an upstanding translucent barrier screen **121** on a frame **122,** an elongated hopper **123** below the screen, and a linear "blacklight" **125** with a transparent cover **126.** The lamp is mounted on a sloping side of the hopper wall so that it shines light on the screen. The hopper extends down into the airspace in the cage, and has a restricted lower opening **128** which is positioned a small distance S above the water line **109** in the cage. The hopper has end panels **131,** and the frame **122** is fastened to the end panels by means of screw fasteners **124.** If necessary, a white lamp **127** is mounted in the cage to induce feeding by fish in the cage. The screen preferably is light in color and has a smooth exterior finish. A white bedsheet or white vinyl sheet are suitable.

Insects are attracted towards the screen **121** and collide with it. The larger insects fall downwardly, are caught in the hopper, and fall through the exit **128** and into the water below where they can be eaten. They cannot easily escape through the opening **128** because it is relatively small, and because it is close to the water surface **109.** Thus, even if the insect escapes being eaten immediately, he is trapped in the air space of the cage. The translucency of the screen **121** attracts insects to both of its sides.

The insect collector **20** has the advantage that it needs no fan. Furthermore, the screen provides a relatively large collection area.

If frogs are to be raised in the cage **108,** the frog support platform **129** (shown in dashed lines) is located directly under the hopper exit **128,** but by a distance "S" which is somewhat larger than when fish are being raised. The reason is that the frogs need room to sit, and also because the frogs should be effective in catching the insects in the air and thus improving the holding effectiveness of the collector **120** without the necessity of feeding all of the insects into the water.

The above-described device and method for attracting forage animals and trapping them in the enclosures in which other aquatic animals are being raised has a number of advantages, in addition to those mentioned above. First, it greatly increases the amount of forage available to the animals being reared. Furthermore, it excludes from the enclosure forage animals too large to be eaten by the enclosed animals, with the result that there is little competition from the forage animals for the food in the enclosure.

The feeding of the animals being reared is greatly simplified if enough of the forage is available to give the animals being raised all they need to eat. If not, the feeding of forage animals can be supplemented by the feeding of insects by means of insect feeders. In this case, additional feeding labor is not needed because the forage animals are attracted into the enclosure by the insects which are attracted and caught by electric lights and fans which can be operated automatically each night by means of timers. Of course, such natural food can be supplemented by the use of commercial pellets, and other known artificial foods.

The above description of the invention is intended to be illustrative and not limiting. Various changes or modifications in the embodiments described may occur to those skilled in the art and these can be made without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention.

I claim:

**1.** A device for feeding amphibious animals, said device comprising a cage for enclosing said animals, cage support means secured to said cage for supporting said cage with its lower portion immersed in a body of water and its upper portion extending out of the water, a cover on said cage, said cover and said upper portion of said cage forming an enclosure, animal support means mounted on the inside of said cage within said enclosure for providing a rest surface adjacent the surface of said water for said amphibious animals to rest upon, insect feeding means mounted on said cage for attracting and urging insects into said enclosure, said cage and said cover being adapted to prevent the escape of said insects from said enclosure.

**2.** A device as in claim **1** in which said insect feeding means includes a housing, a lamp mounted on said housing, a fan mounted in said housing, said housing