

permeable, net support arms 137, each of which arms exits the core 140 via apertures 141 in the tube 138 in direct fluid communication with the wick.

The bottom of the wick 136 spreads out into one or more wick-moistening members 148 that exit the bottom of the core 140 in fluid communication with the trapping solution 111 held in the reservoir 110.

A finger-twist nut 120 affixes to a bolt 142 in the top of the tube 138 and holds the cup 126 and the cap 116 securely in place atop the body 104. The tube 138 threads through the cup bottom 130, which bottom 130 rests against an annular flange 144 affixed to the tube 138.

One or more bait-moistening members 150 exit through apertures in the tube 138 and lie down flat against the upper surface of the cup bottom 130. An annular bait-moistening disk 125 may be rested above the bait-moistening members 150. Suitable bait 124 is placed on top of the bait-moistening disk 125 and/or the bait-moistening members 150.

Operation

Glue dissolved in the trapping solution 11 rises up the wick 36 and permeates the fly-contacting members 46, which members remain moist and sticky as long as a supply of trapping solution 11 remains in the reservoir 10.

Air entering the interior cavity 7 via the inlet port 12 and air inlets 14 rises up and passes through the cup bottom inlet perforations 34, past the bait 24 (thereby carrying off fly-attracting vapors), and out the outlet perforations 32 in the cup side wall 28 and the aroma ports 18 of the cap 16. A certain amount of decay vapors also may exit the inlet port 12 and air inlets 14. The outlet perforations 32, aroma ports 18, inlet port 12 and air inlets 14 all therefore comprise means for externally venting bait aroma. The bait 24 is kept moist (thereby promoting continuous decay) by means of fluid rising up the tube 38 and out the bait-moistening members 50.

Flies attracted to the smell of edible bait soon find they cannot get to it through the outlet perforations 32 or the aroma ports 18 of the cap. Inevitably, they enter the inlet port 12 in search of the bait 24. Once in the interior cavity 7, they will fly around therein seeking food, and failing that, safe egress. However, they quickly tire and eventually seek to rest on the fly-contacting members 46, which may be colored and shaped so as to be deceptively attractive to them.

Once on the glue-saturated fly-contacting members 46, a fly or other flying insect picks up small amounts of glue on its footpads, tongue, antennae and the like. In an attempt to rid itself of the glue, it grooms the affected parts. This merely spreads the glue to other body parts—in particular, to its wings. Once the wings have glue on them, the insect no longer can fly. It drops down into the reservoir 10 and drowns in the trapping solution 11.

After a sufficient quantity of insects have been captured, the cap 16 and cup 26 can be removed, the dead flies and other insects disposed of, and the bait 24 and solution 11 replaced for continuous reuse of the device 1.

The operation of the invention has been described with respect to the fly trapping embodiment of FIGS. 1-3. Trapping mosquitoes in the embodiment of FIG. 4 proceeds in an identical fashion, except that mosquitoes do not seek landing areas as often as flies. The obstacle net 146 of the fly and insect trap 101 are provided as mosquito-contacting areas for attaching glue to the wings of mosquitoes even when lightly brushed in flight (as well as occasionally when landed upon).

The above disclosure is sufficient to enable one of ordinary skill in the art to practice the invention, and provides the best mode of practicing the invention presently contemplated by the inventor. While there is provided herein a full and complete disclosure of the preferred embodiments of this invention, various modifications, alternative constructions, and equivalents may be employed without departing from the true spirit and scope of the invention. Such changes might involve alternative materials, components, structural arrangements, sizes, operational features or the like. For example, the cup can be stored entirely within the interior cavity, wherein the walls of the cup would be nested within the wall of the body, and the cap attached to the body wall rather than to the cup. In such case, the wall of the cup would not contain aroma outlet perforations. Therefore, the above description and illustrations should not be construed as limiting the scope of the invention, which is defined by the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. Fly and insect trap apparatus including:

a body forming an interior cavity;
an inlet port for admitting flying insects;
means for externally venting bait aroma;
a glue solution reservoir;
a wick vertically supported in the body and extending down into the reservoir;
at least one insect-contacting member connected in fluid communication with the wick;
a tube having a hollow axial core;
an open bottom end of the tube; and
at least one side tube aperture in the tube, the aperture communicating with the core, wherein the wick is disposed in the core and exits the open bottom tube end, and the contacting member is threaded out a tube aperture.

2. Fly and insect trap apparatus including:

a body forming an interior cavity;
an inlet port for admitting flying insects;
means for externally venting bait aroma;
a glue solution reservoir;
a wick vertically supported in the body and extending down into the reservoir;
at least one insect-contacting member connected in fluid communication with the wick; and
a solution of water and glue in the reservoir, wherein the wick draws glue up and onto the contacting member.

3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein:

the aroma venting means includes a cup attached to the body; and
outlet perforations in the cup communicating externally of the apparatus.

4. Fly and insect trap apparatus including:

a body forming an interior cavity;
an inlet port for admitting flying insects;
means for externally venting bait aroma, the aroma venting means having a cup attached to the body and outlet perforations in the cup communicating externally of the apparatus;
a glue solution reservoir;
a wick vertically supported in the body and extending down into the reservoir;
at least one insect-contacting member connected in fluid communication with the wick;