

ture from the thermometer which was located on the panel alongside the flowmeter and set the indicator pointer at the appropriate line on the adjustment chart. The flowmeter was adjusted so that the bottom of the ball rested on the level of the indicator pointer. Once the flowmeter was properly adjusted the operator only had to glance at the thermometer and to the indicator to determine immediately if the correct amount of insecticide was being dispersed.

A MOSQUITO LIGHT-TRAP STABILIZER^{1, 2}

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Probably the most common cause of damage to mosquito light traps is directly or indirectly connected with wind. Traps hung near a building or supporting structure are often damaged by striking such objects if the wind causes them to swing back and forth. However, if the suspending chains or ropes loosen or break and allow it to fall to the ground, severe damage to the light, motor or housing may occur. These damages are not only costly, but specimens are lost or fail to be collected.

In southern Arizona during the months from November to April, wind speeds up to 32 mph are quite common, and "dust devils" (desert whirlwinds) and thunderstorms are common during the summer months. To avoid damage to light traps, we have developed a simple device which not only prevents wind-caused damage, but also provides a trap stand in flat or open areas where objects from which to hang a trap are not available (i.e. houses, trees, posts).

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FIG. 1. Light trap bracket close-up of telescoping shaft.

Figure 1 shows a light trap suspended in the ordinary manner but with the bottom held in place by the light-trap stabilizer. The stabilizer consists of two iron pipes, one - a 3/8 inch outer diameter and the other of a slightly greater interior diameter. Both pipes are 4 feet long. A simple platform of slightly greater base diameter than the light trap is made of reinforcing rod welded to one end of the larger pipe. Directly beneath the light trap, the smaller pipe is driven into the ground. This pipe is fitted with a threaded cap to prevent flaring during placement. The cap is removed and the outer, larger pipe is slid over it. The larger pipe is equipped with a set-screw, which permits it to be telescoped over the smaller pipe to the desired height setting. The outer pipe is raised until the base of the light trap rests lightly on the platform. The trap is held in a non-swinging position by upright "keepers" on the platform. The base of the trap can then be locked or tied to the platform as indicated in Figure 1.

Light-trap stabilizers are quite inexpensive and simple to build, yet highly effective in avoiding wind damage. During the windy months in Tucson, Arizona, none of our traps with stabilizers was damaged, whereas, all traps without stabilizers incurred damage ranging from broken collecting jars to motors which burned out when they fell to the ground while running.