

SPNHC

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PAPERS

A REVIEW OF PUBLISHED TEMPERATURES FOR THE CONTROL OF PEST INSECTS IN MUSEUMS

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Reported temperatures for the extermination and control of 46 museum insect pests are tabulated and graphed. Temperature and time of exposure found in publications recommending thermal control methods for museum use are tabulated for comparison to the mortality data from entomological literature. Miscellaneous control temperatures are also tabulated, providing information on chill-coma, feeding and developmental limits. A lethal boundary model is proposed as a provisional guide to thermal extermination of insect pests.

NEW MATERIALS FOR SEALING OLD CROCKS

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Preliminary tests indicate that closed-cell foam weatherstrip tape and extruded polyethylene rope work in sealing a type of museum jar long out of production, but which still may be in wide use. The seal is water-proof, but observation confirms vaporization of alcohol continues, albeit at greatly reduced levels.

SHIPPING OF PINNED INSECTS

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Pinned insects are very fragile but can be shipped successfully if correct materials and procedures for packing them are used. Specimens are pinned securely into an inner box which is set amid shock-absorbing material in a larger box. A faster mailing rate is preferred because less time in route requires less handling, thereby reducing likelihood of damage.

CONDITIONS ON OUTGOING RESEARCH LOANS

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Research loans create fewer unpleasant surprises when borrower and lender have agreed in writing on the terms of the loan. This article outlines considerations related to responsibility, written permission, duration, shipping, insurance, publication and copy-right that may need to be addressed in drafting agreements for outgoing research loans.

