



FlySentry is a 3-ft. tall series of cones. Slots under each cone allow flies in to eat the sweet-smelling bait, which is protected by the cones from the elements.

FlySentry Delivers Fly Bait Safely

Fly bait works, and the FlySentry provides a way to make it available to flies, but not children and pets.

The 3-ft. tall units look like a series of cones. Slots under each cone allow the flies in to eat the sweet-smelling bait, which is protected by the cones from the elements.

Kevin Rickert and Charles Swartz of Medina, Ohio, put the patented FlySentry on the market in 2007, after three years of testing in locations throughout the country. Swartz's uncle, who worked in pest control, created the design.

"According to research, flies are most active from the ground up to 42 inches," Rickert says. FlySentry units are placed 6 in. off the ground and screwed to posts with two screws. Each cone holds 10-oz. of fly bait. A 5-lb. bucket of bait found at farm supply stores fills the unit 15 to 18 times. A cap on the top of the FlySentry makes refilling simple.

"The whole idea behind the product is that it's a safe and effective way of delivering bait, rather than just tossing it on the ground where kids and pets go," Rickert explains. "I know there's a big problem out there. I live in a rural setting."

New Trap Kills, Then Conceals Dead Flies

The patented "Flybrella" takes advantage of flies' resting habits to lure them in.

Entomologist Jerome Hogsette developed the design as part of his research service work with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, along with assistance from now retired chemist David Carlson.

"It's a trap that takes advantage of fly behavior, especially near the ceiling," Hogsette says. "When they rest, they rest high."

Any strip with bait will work, but Hogsette likes quick-killing QuikStrike fly abatement strips. He cuts strips to fit in the Flybrella tube and secures them with a horizontal straight pin at the top.

Flies are attracted to the bait, slip into 1/2-in. perforations to eat it, and fall dead within seconds into the dome-shaped container at the bottom of the trap. The bottom of the container simply unscrews to empty.

For some reason, flies are attracted to the clear tubes, Hogsette says. The container with the dead flies is opaque, however, to keep them out of view.

A long side hook allows the lightweight Flybrella to be hung with a piece of wire from cords or other vertical objects.



A small farm requires 6 to 12 units to do an effective job, Rickert says. Each covers about 1,000 sq. ft. or a 35-ft. radius.

Proper placement is crucial, near breeding areas such as manure piles, water and water troughs. If people want to put them inside a barn, they should also put them outside of the barn, Rickert notes, as the smell of the bait will lure flies inside.

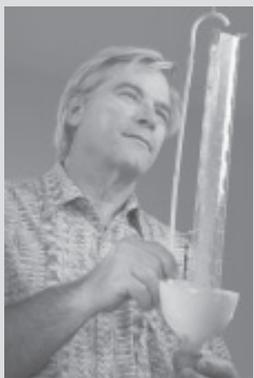
"You need to set up the correct perimeter of defense to slow down breeding," he says.

In addition to rural settings, the FlySentry works in restaurants to kill fruit flies.

While white seems to attract flies the best, the units also come in brown, green and black to blend in with their setting. They sell for \$69.99 each. The initial investment pays off, Rickert says, because FlySentry is a simple, effective and safe delivery system made of engineered plastic that will last for years.

FlySentry is sold through Rickert's website, and he is also seeking dealers and agents.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kevin Rickert, Tuff Frog, 3593 Medina Road 189, Medina, Ohio 44256 (ph 866 491-9769; info@tufffrog.com; www.tufffrog.com).



David Carlson helped develop the "Flybrella". It takes advantage of flies' resting habits to lure them in.

The Flybrella was designed for restaurants and other commercial settings, Hogsette says, but will work anywhere flies are a problem.

A couple of companies have expressed interest in purchasing the license to market the Flybrella.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jerome Hogsette, 1600-1700 S.W. 23rd Dr., Gainesville, Florida 32608 (ph 352 374-5912; Jerry.Hogsette@ARS.USDA.GOV).



Used Japanese mini trucks are rebuilt from the ground up in the Philippines.

"Like New" Rebuilt Mini Trucks

"They're the best bargain in farming," says Paul Stith, veteran importer of mini trucks from Japan who recently started a new service. He sells totally rebuilt used mini trucks at prices that are only about \$1,000 more than the "as is" trucks that most dealers sell.

"To my knowledge, no one else offers this service. We rebuild the trucks from the ground up – a 100 percent off-frame restoration," says Stith. Here's what is done to the trucks:

New brakes, clutch, battery, tires, wheels, and cv joints are installed. The engine and transmission are rebuilt. A lift kit, bullbar, and a rear bumper with trailer ball are all added, and the interior is totally refurbished and the outside given a new paint job.

"They're like new trucks," says Stith, who's importing the rebuilt mini trucks from a rebuilder in the Philippines, which is why the work can be done so cost effectively. A totally rebuilt truck sells for \$4,900 while an "as is" version of the same truck sells for \$3,900. All trucks are 1993 to 1998 models



Interiors are totally refurbished, too.

with 4-WD, manual transmission, and air conditioning. Carrying capacity is 1,200 lbs. Dump boxes are available as are extended cabs.

Stith works with buyers in Japan who attend used vehicle auctions. He sells trucks direct to farmers, or he can sell the mini trucks by the container load to dealers.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Paul Stith, 95 Oakridge Drive, Oneonta, Ala. 35121 (ph 205 274-7808 or 205 446-9743; stith@otelco.net; www.myminitrucks.com).

Cold Weather Uses For Oil Pan Heaters

Automobile oil pan heaters are a necessity in Alaska where Bob Carpenter lives.

Carpenter says oil pan heaters work great for a variety of other uses, too, because they're inexpensive and waterproof.

"You can buy them at any automotive parts store. They're a thin, 1/8-in. thick, firm rubber pad connected to an electrical cord that you glue onto the oil pan of a vehicle," Carpenter explains. "They come in a wide range of sizes, from 6 to 10 in. wide, and prices run from \$5 to \$20."

Carpenter hangs a 10 by 10-in. oil pan heater in his septic tank so it won't freeze up. It keeps the tank plenty warm and at a minimal cost, he says.

He uses a 1 by 6-in. unit to keep a chicken waterer from icing up. He just lays it right in the water.

Last winter, when the heating tape in Carpenter's water well casing burned out, he replaced it with a 4 by 4-in. oil pan heater. Because the rubber pad was bigger than the casing, he just rolled it and tied the roll with a twist tie so he could lower it down the hole.

There are newer versions on the market that are only 3 by 3-in., yet they put out 200 watts of energy, he says.

"Oil pan heaters are self-regulating so they won't over heat. I think you could probably hook one up with a thermostat and make your own egg incubator, or one of these heaters would probably work well



Bob Carpenter says oil pan heaters work great for a variety of other uses because they're inexpensive and waterproof.

on a small stock tank to keep an area ice-free for winter stock watering," Carpenter says. "In fact, you could put one in a pan of water and soak your feet in it."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Richard (Bob) Carpenter, HC 60, P. O. Box 4740, Delta Junction, Alaska 99737 (ph 907 895-1005; arcticangel@wildak.net).