greater number of teeth are required, in order to produce a slower drum speed, it would be well to increase the diameter of the rotor.

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THE CULTURE OF A FREE-LIVING NEMATODE (GENUS RHABDITIS) AND ITS USE AS CLASSROOM MATERIAL

Ascaris lumbricoides is generally used as laboratory material for the study of Phylum Nemathelminthes in elementary courses in zoology. The mature worms are usually dissected, and the beginning student seldom sees any of the earlier developmental stages in the life history of the animals. The following account presents a simple method for culturing another species of round worm (*Rhabditis* sp.) on a nutrient agar medium, the advantage of this material being that all stages in the life cycle can be studied by the student from a freshly prepared slide.

Mature individuals and eggs of *Rhabditis* can easily be isolated from the slime found on the under surface of damp logs. This slime consists of molds, bacteria, mycetozoa and fungi in various stages of decay. If a bit of this slime is brought into the laboratory and streaked upon agar slants containing 15 per cent. corn meal, the fungi and bacteria will multiply rapidly. At the end of about two weeks free-living nematodes can generally be found in considerable numbers. Eggs and larvae will be present as well as the adult worms. As the culture progresses the bacteria form a thick slimy layer on the surface of the agar, making an ideal medium for growth and reproduction of the nematodes.

The author has kept a single culture thus prepared for as long as seven months without transfer. If transfers are made from the stock culture about one week before they are to be used, all stages of the worm's life history can readily be demonstrated. In Genus *Rhabditis* the long pointed tail of the female, as compared with the blunt tail of the male, makes the identification of sexes very simple. Under the 4 mm objective the digestive tract and accessory sex organs of the male can be seen. Eggs may be found in all stages of cleavage.

This method for culturing nematodes and their use in the classroom has been successfully demonstrated in the zoology department of Syracuse University.

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VISIBLE FILE FOR LANTERN SLIDES

THE file described here permits standard lantern slides to be kept in regular 3×5 filing equipment and to be indexed in the same manner as card files. Each slide is as readily visible as a card and can be found at least as quickly. When a slide is removed from the file, its space is kept for it so that it can be returned to its proper place with a minimum of effort. Any number of slides can be removed without allowing the remaining ones to fall flat in the case.

Obtain chip board at least one eighth of an inch thick. Cut into pieces three eighths by three inches. Glue one of these pieces onto each end of one side of a plain 3×5 card (medium or heavy weight). Make up one such holder-card for each slide to be filed. Put them into a 3×5 card file and drop the slides into the spaces so provided.

To make guides, type the desired words on a piece of card and glue it onto one of the holder-cards so the printing will show above the slides. The holder-cards, which are never removed from the case, may bear the title or number of their respective slides.

This same system might be used for microscope slides; the writer has not tried it.

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