How to use the Fly Trap

1. Put some smelly bait in the bottom bottle. This may be some bits of rotting meat or cow manure.

2. Hang the trap up in a place where there are many flies, such as in a latrine or near a cattle boma.

3. Flies will enter through the base, feed on the bait and then fly upwards towards the light and become trapped.

4. Once the flies are dead, simply open the trap, shake them out and give them to chickens to eat, and reassemble. If the trap is left out in the hot sun in the middle of the day the heat will kill the flies.

(Design from Meegan and Morley in Footsteps No.36 Sept 1998)

A SIMPLE FLY TRAP

Flies can spread many diseases, especially those causing diarrhoea. They are also very annoying when there are many around.

A simple trap that can catch 200-300 flies a day can be made out of two plastic drink bottles.

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How to make the Fly Trap

All you need is two complete plastic bottles of the same size, an extra piece of plastic cut from another bottle, and some scissors or a knife.

1. Cut the bottom off one bottle. Keep the top screwed on this bottle, which will be the upper one.

2. The lower bottle is used whole, but the screw top is removed.

3. Paint the lower part of the bottom bottle with dark paint to keep out the light. A permanent marker is suitable for this. An alternative is to use a dark or coloured bottle for the bottom one.

4. Cut two entry holes near the base of the bottom bottle, as in the diagram.

5. Cut a piece of square plastic from another bottle, roll it into a tube and push it onto the top of the lower bottle so that it reaches up into the upper one.

6. Push the upper bottle firmly onto the lower bottle. The result is a completed fly trap.