



New Mexico 4-H Greentop Project Guide



New Mexico 4-H Is A Program of New Mexico State University's Cooperative Extension Service

**400.J-2
New 2007**

ENTOMOLOGY UNIT 2

Intermediate Project for Novice, Junior and Senior Members

(This unit may take more than one year to complete)

Welcome to the wonderful and amazing world of insects! This project will focus on making insect collections. There are a lot of things that go into making an insect collection. You will learn the process of making an insect collection from beginning to end. Remember, insects are so numerous that you can collect them almost anywhere – in the backyard, the garden, at the lake or in the open field.

What you will learn in this project

- How to properly photograph insects
- How to catch a bug
- Gear needed to catch big insects
- Pinning for fun and for profit
- How to spread butterflies and moths
- How to label your specimen correctly

Materials that can be used

- *New Mexico 4-H Entomology* project book, 100 J-10 **Pages 1-98**
- Entomology Greentop, 400.J-2
- *Reference Material for 4-H Entomology Leaders*, 200 J-10
- *One Hundred Common Insects of New Mexico*, 200 J-11
- www.nmffa.org :Activities: State Career Development: Contest Rules and Test Banks
- Borror and White—Field Guide to the Insects, Peterson Field Guide series, Houghton-Mifflin, Boston
- Milne and Milne—Audubon Society, Field Guide to North American Insects and Spiders, Knopf, New York

Fair Exhibit

Make an insect collection consisting of 20 specimens from at least 5 different orders.

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NMSU and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating.

Project Activities

- ✓ Make a collecting net
- ✓ Constructing a net bag
- ✓ Make killing jars
- ✓ Make a pinning block
- ✓ Make a spreading board
- ✓ Make a collection box

Ideas for Leadership and Community Service:

- Give a talk or presentation at a project/club meeting.
- Make a display for 4-H family night or a school science fair.
- Teach a friend how to collect and mount insects.
- Visit a preschool or Cloverbud group and show your collection or live, non-harmful insects.
- Help your adult or teen leader set up or clean up at a project meeting.
- Provide beneficial insects to a community garden, park, cemetery, etc.
- Lead a collection tour
- Help youth in Unit 1 with insect identification