

EXTENSION SERVICE
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State College of
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of Agriculture cooperating.

Instructions for Making and Installing
the Whitaker Trapnest.

The Whitaker trapnest can be attached to practically any size of open nest unless the size of the front is smaller than shown in the accompanying blueprint. To fit this trap to old nests simply make the door the required size without changing the size of the opening in the door.

The Blueprint shows only the door of the nest and the moving or locking device. This door is set flush with the nest partitions and the moving piece is on the outside of the door. The nests should be 4 inches higher than the height of the door so as to permit a 4 inch strip being fastened along the lower front of the nest to hold nest litter in place. A lighting board about 6 inches wide should be fastened flush with the bottom of the nests.

Study the blueprint carefully. The moving piece or locking device is shown full size and it should be made to conform in all particulars and especially in the shape, size and location of the two slots. This moving piece is best made from cedar, pine or spruce. Fir warps or buckles too easily. This piece can be sawed out at home with a small coping or fret saw but any woodworking shop with a small band saw could undoubtedly make them as cheaply and possibly more uniform. Before fitting this piece to the door smooth the two slots with emery cloth or sand paper so it will move easily.

As above stated the size of the door proper can be changed to fit old nests but the opening as shown in the blueprint should not be changed materially. It is amply large for American varieties and not too large for Leghorns.

To assemble the nest first set 2 small screw eyes in the edge about 8 inches apart. When 2 other screw eyes are set the same distance apart in the nest partition a heavy soft wire can be inserted through the 4 screw eyes to make the hinge.

Next, set the top screw. Drill a hole smaller than the screw exactly where shown in the blueprint. Place a washer on a round head screw size No. 10, insert through the top slot, place another washer, and screw into the drilled hole. Drilling the hole prevents the screw from splitting the wood.

Next, bend a screw hook No. 8 as shown in the blueprint. Then place the moving piece in the position shown by the heavy lines in the blueprint and drill a small hole in the door through the circle at the end of the curved slot. Next screw the bent screw hook into place leaving it pointing diagonally upward. Have both screws just loose enough to permit free travel without side play.

Use one of the bent screw hooks in the edge of the next partition for a door latch.

The moving piece sets on the outside of the door. To open the nest, as when trapping birds, lift from the lower left hand corner diagonally upward. This will leave the right hand free to grasp the bird and at the same time reset the nest. It is not necessary to open the entire door in trapping but the hinge and catch make it very easy to thoroughly clean and disinfect the nest as occasion requires.