

# Do-it-Yourself Gypsy Moth Trap



As Gypsy Moth becomes a prevalent issue in Christmas Tree lots across the province, it is integral to find ways to capture and monitor population levels. Numerous growers have turned to homemade traps that are just as, or more effective than store bought, but for a lower price. Follow the steps below to create your Gypsy Moth trap!

## Materials

Store-bought traps are usually a bright color. This allows the moths to escape once entering the trap because they can follow the light coming through the holes in the sides of the traps. Using transparent materials can reduce the number of moths that escape.

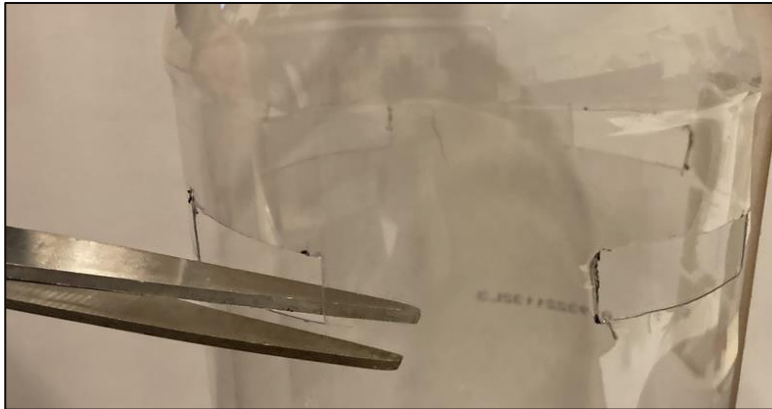
### Material list:

- A transparent 2-litre pop or juice bottle
- Scissors or a knife
- Twine
- Screw eyes
- Tape
- Gypsy Moth pheromone lure (see reference section for sourcing of pheromone lures)
- Water and dish soap
- Disposable gloves (when handling the pheromone strips)

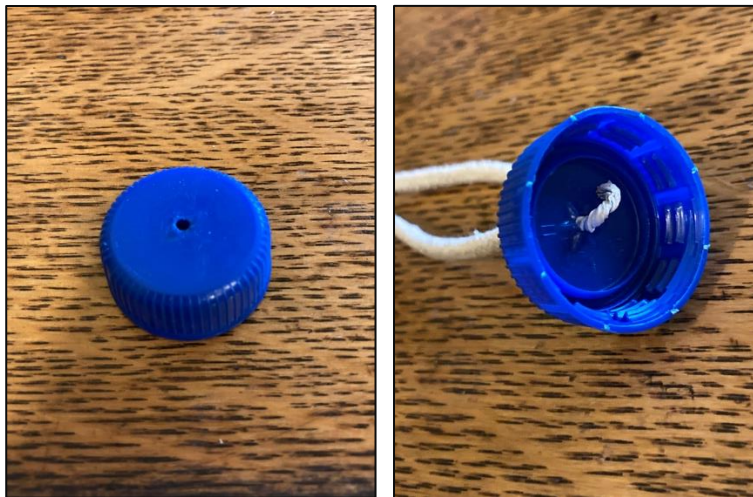


## Instructions:

1. Rinse the bottle.
2. Cut 4 'slot' holes around the bottle. Typically, the widest point of the bottle is best. The hole should be approximately 3 cm ( $1 - \frac{3}{16}$  in) long, and 1.25 cm (approx.  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch) in height.



3. Remove the bottle lid and punch a hole just large enough for a small screw eye. String twine through the screw eye and tie a knot at the desired length. If screw eyes are not available, feed the twine through the hole of the lid and tie a knot. The screw eye will prevent the twine from getting wet inside the trap.



4. Secure a piece of Gypsy Moth pheromone to the inside of the lid. This can be done by taking a small piece of tape and attaching it to the underside of the lid. Be cautious not to cover the entire lure with tape as it needs to hang down from the lid slightly.





5. Place a couple of inches of water into the bottle and add a couple of drops of dish soap. The solution traps moths that enter the bottle and prevent their escape.



6. Hang your trap in the desired location and monitor regularly. You will have to refresh the lure, water and dish soap on occasion or when the trap gets too full.



## References

Sources of pheromone lures:

<https://www.arbico-organics.com/product/scentry-gypsy-moth-trap/pest-solver-guide-caterpillars-moths/?added=y&pid=4715>

<https://www.treehelp.com/treehelp-gypsy-moth-trap-replacement-lure/>

<https://www.urbannaturestore.ca/gypsy-moth-trap-replacement-lure/>

Literature sources:

[https://www.gypsymothalert.com/traps\\_homemade.html](https://www.gypsymothalert.com/traps_homemade.html)

[https://www.ippc.int/static/media/uploads/resources/gypsy\\_moth\\_program\\_manual.pdf](https://www.ippc.int/static/media/uploads/resources/gypsy_moth_program_manual.pdf)

<https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdffiles/IN/IN110300.pdf>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/pest-control-tips/gypsy-moths.html>



