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## A MODIFIED DEVICE FOR RAPID SELECTION OF SOIL AND WATER NEMATODES FROM MIXED SUSPENSION

by

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An earlier device (Alam, 1975) for selectively picking up large number of soil or fresh water nematodes was modified and appears to be an improvement over similar devices (Minteer, 1965; Shukla *et al.*, 1971; Khan *et al.*, 1972) because of its speed and simplicity. The entire apparatus can be easily assembled in any laboratory and does not require any specialised components. Assembly and operation details are as follows:

*Construction details:* Two L-shaped glass tubes (0.5 cm diameter) of 4 and 5 cm lengths were inserted into the neck of a separating funnel 'D' (100 ml capacity) with the help of an air tight rubber stopper. One of the L-shaped tubes (5 cm length) was connected through a rubber tubing (75 cm length, 0.5 cm diameter) to another glass tube 'E' (15 cm length, 0.7 cm diameter) which was provided with a fine tip (7 cm length). The other L-shaped tube (4 cm length) was connected through a rubber tubing (0.5 cm diameter) of desirable length, to an aspirator 'B' (syn. filter pump) which was attached to a water tap 'A'. The separating funnel was supported by a retort stand 'C' (Fig. 1).

*Operation:* Before use, the stopper of the separating funnel 'D' was closed and then the water tap 'A' was opened to start suction of air into the aspirator 'B' resulting in a partial vacuum in the separating funnel 'D'. The glass tip was then introduced into the nematode suspension observed with a stereoscopic microscope

and brought near the desired nematode specimen. The specimen was sucked up along with a small amount of water into the glass tube 'E'. The operation was repeated with other specimens until the separating funnel 'D' was filled. The water tap 'A' was then closed and the nematode suspension was taken out from the separating funnel 'D' through the stopper. The suction pressure was adjusted by regulating the flow of water through the aspirator 'B'.

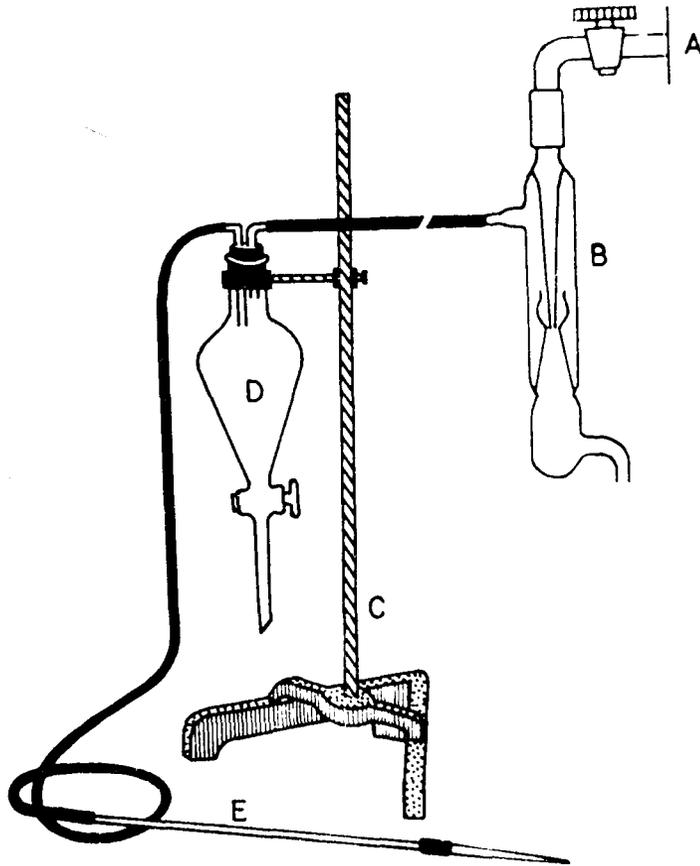


Fig. 1 - Diagram of the apparatus used for picking up of nematodes. A: water tap; B: aspirator; C: retort stand; D: separating funnel and E: glass tube with fine jet.

## LITERATURE CITED

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