

Ketterson / Nolan Research Group Collection

This document is part of a collection that serves two purposes. First it is a public archive for data and documents resulting from evolutionary, ecological, and behavioral research conducted by the Ketterson-Nolan research group. The focus of the research is an abundant North American songbird, the dark-eyed junco, *Junco hyemalis*, and the primary sources of support have been the National Science Foundation and Indiana University. The research was conducted in collaboration with numerous colleagues and students, and the objective of this site is to preserve not only the published products of the research, but also to document the organization and people that led to the published findings. Second it is a repository for the works of Val Nolan Jr., who studied songbirds in addition to the junco: in particular the prairie warbler, *Dendroica discolor*. This site was originally compiled and organized by Eric Snajdr, Nicole Gerlach, and Ellen Ketterson.

Context Statement

This document was generated as part of a long-term biological research project on a songbird, the dark-eyed junco, conducted by the Ketterson/Nolan research group at Indiana University. For more information, please see IUScholarWorks (<https://scholarworks.iu.edu/dspace/handle/2022/7911>).

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From: Ellen Ketterson <ketterso@indiana.edu>
Subject: Fwd: question from Sam re aluminum foil, loss of volatiles, use of acetone
Date: August 13, 2011 9:56:48 AM EDT
To: Nicole Gerlach <nmgerlac@indiana.edu>



do we have a protocols section on the web page where we could mount things like this

or an e-mail that Mark sent just the other day about implants?

I will forward...

Ellen Ketterson

ketterso@indiana.edu

<http://www.indiana.edu/~kettlab/index.html>

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Danielle J. Whittaker" <djwhitta@msu.edu>
Date: August 12, 2011 5:32:51 PM EDT
To: Ellen Ketterson <ketterso@indiana.edu>
Cc: Sam slowinski <samslowinski@gmail.com>, Sarah Wanamaker <sarawana@indiana.edu>
Subject: Re: question from Sam re aluminum foil, loss of volatiles, use of acetone

Hi Ellen et al -

1. Aluminum foil is the Novotny lab protocol. Foil is good because it does not give off volatiles, unlike plastic. Soft plastic, like bags, is very bad; hard plastic like Eppendorf tubes is ok.
2. That method sounds ok with me - if you are going to analyze volatiles from those samples, check with Helena first, though.
3. I didn't take samples from the same bird more often than every other day. You might be able to get preen oil once every 24 hours, but I don't think you could get much more often than that.
4. Nope! I just gently rub back and forth across the gland with the tip of the tube - simulating the action of the bird's beak when they take preen oil from the gland to preen.

Hope that helps!!

D

On 8/12/11 4:12 PM, Ellen Ketterson wrote:

Hi Danielle,

Sam and Sarah and I met this morning and had fun thinking about how to ask ants what they like. They had been to see Helena and Amanda to get pipettes and some pure volatile.

I have a couple of questions as to source of methods, Julie Hagelin? Novotny? etc.

1. why do we use aluminum foil to store samples?
2. Mary G. used micropipettes and kept them in a screw top jar first on ice in the field and then frozen back at the lab. She did not use gloves but did use tweezers to handle the glass tubes
3. If Sam wants to get multiple preen oil samples from a bird so cages it, how often is he likely to be able to get a sample?
4. when holding a bird to collect a sample do you do any pressing from below with your thumb or a finger?

I think that's it for today, wish you were here!

Ellen Ketterson

ketterso@indiana.edu

<http://www.indiana.edu/~kettlab/index.html>

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