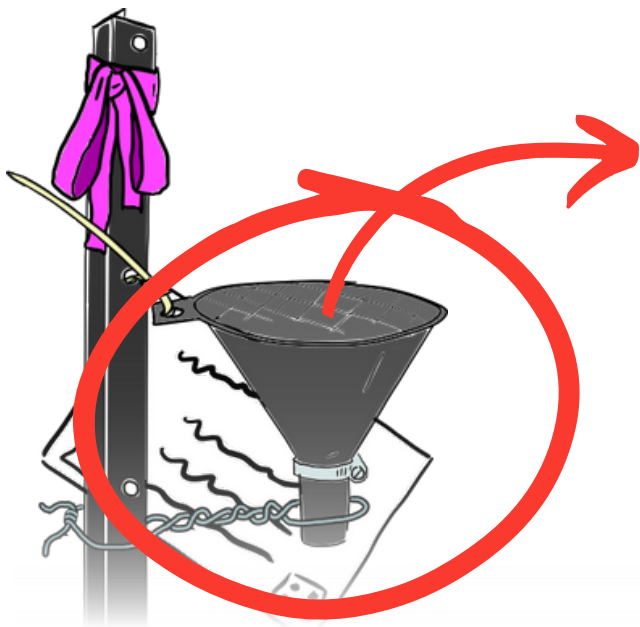


# Collect your Pollen Trap



From Dust to Data!

## Before you begin

Ideally, it has been a year since you placed your trap. Refresh your memory! Did you need permission for access? Do you have the coordinates? If it has been more or less than a year, that's OK—just record the date in any case.



You'll need some equipment:

- cling wrap
- resealable zip bag 230 x 300 mm or bigger
- GPS-enabled device
- wire cutter
- pliers
- permanent marker
- rubber band or twist tie
- safety gear: especially if you're installing a star picket, consider steel cap footwear, gloves, and hearing protection



Consider putting out another trap! Our project is ongoing and if you plan on coming back, put out a new trap to replace the one you're collecting.

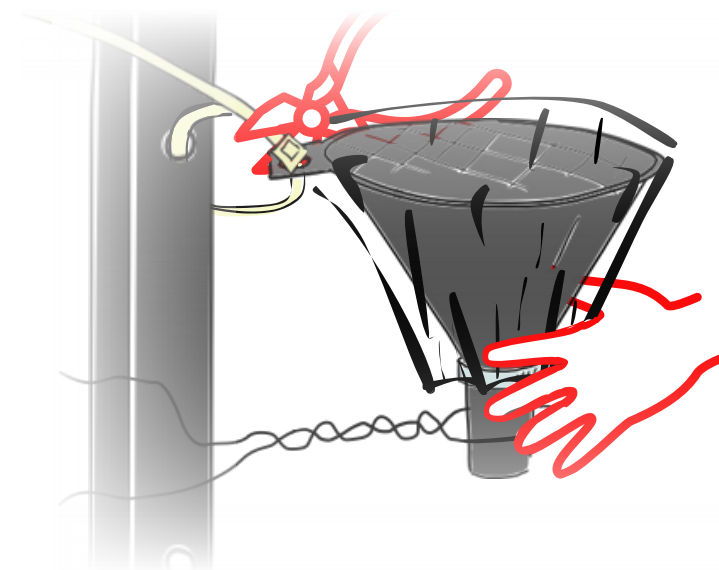
## Step 1: Dismantling



Remember that a major goal of the project is to learn about Pollen Accumulation Rates, the **amount** of pollen produced by plants. Try to ensure nothing falls out of the trap—every pollen grain counts!

Recovery (easier with two pairs of hands!)

- Write the site name and date on the zip bag. Unzip the bag and keep it handy.
- Place a ~40 cm long sheet of cling wrap over the top of funnel.
- Get rubber band or twist tie handy, holding trap with cling wrap in place, use wire cutters to remove zip tie and wire (see illustration below).
- Secure cling wrap with rubber band or twist tie and place trap directly into bag, zip closed.



Be careful not to leave zip tie bits or other rubbish in the field!

## Step 2: Trap return

If you are putting out a new pollen trap, follow the instructions on the Pollen Trap Kit pamphlet.

If you are **not** putting out a new trap, make sure to collect the caution sign, wire, star picket, and anything else that you installed.

Take your trap to the post office and send it to us. It will fit in a medium flat rate satchel. Please address it like this:

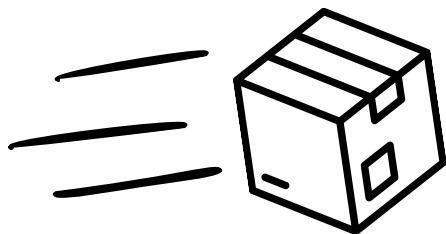
VegeMap

Attn: Janelle Stevenson

Dept of Culture, History  
and Language

9 Fellows Road

Australian National University  
Acton ACT 2601, Australia



## Step 3: Bonus!

Please also consider doing a vegetation survey around your trap, instructions at:  
[epicaustralia.org.au/vegemap](http://epicaustralia.org.au/vegemap)



Leave the rest to us! We will send you images of your pollen and a copy of the data you collected!

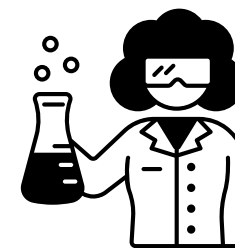
## Thank you for participating!

**FYI:** We'll clean the trap and cling wrap to make sure to collect as much pollen as possible. Then, we put the contents through a process called acetolysis, which will stain the pollen and dissolve the filter and cigarette tips. We'll determine the concentration of pollen in the trap. Finally, we'll make microscope slides from a subsample to photograph and identify the species present!



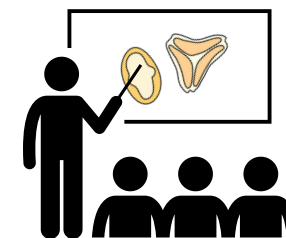
## Learn more!

The VegeMap team does peer-reviewed research!



## Teach more!

VegeMap has resources for your classroom!



See what we're up to and what we can offer you:

[epicaustralia.org.au/vegemap](http://epicaustralia.org.au/vegemap)

