

1. In the case of specimens which tend to float, on account either of an oily surface, or through the accumulation of air bubbles (as e. g. in Arctiids, etc.) a preliminary immersion for a few moments in 70% or 90% alcohol will be found to facilitate their contact with and penetration by the fluid.

2. In dealing with large or transparent larvæ, it is well to starve the specimens for a few hours before killing, in order that the alimentary canal may be emptied of its contents. For this suggestion I am indebted to Mr. A. F. Winn.

3. In the case of elongated larvæ, if tubes be employed, they should be almost completely filled with the fluid A., and then allowed to lie horizontally until the transfer to fluid B. is made.

While it is not claimed that the above method is applicable to all forms, or that all colours will be permanently preserved, it has yielded good results in the hands of the writer, and in those of the gentlemen who have so kindly, at his suggestion, given it an extended trial. Larvæ of widely-differing types, such as the following, have been satisfactorily preserved:—various Arctiids and Geometrids, *Eucanessa antiopa*, *Datana* spp., and *Nymphula maculalis*, together with numerous Coleopterous larvæ and the nymphal stages of a number of Hemiptera.

In any event the method is one of easy application, and the ingredients for the preparation of the fluid are cheaply and easily obtainable. No more satisfactory means of preserving insect larvæ and pupæ is known to the writer, by whom this note is submitted in the hope that the method, while admittedly not of universal application, will be found to be of service, and by whom any reports of its successful employment, or suggestions as to its modification, will be gratefully received.

Zoological Laboratory, McGill University, Oct. 29, 1918.

NOTE ON *CHALEPUS NERVOSA* PANZ. AND ITS PROBABLE FOOD PLANT.

The reading of the "Notes on *Chalepus rubra* in New Jersey," published in the December number of the Canadian Entomologist, has prompted me to give a short account of a somewhat similar observation I made last Spring on *Chalepus nervosa* Panzer, the only one of the five recorded Canadian species that I have taken in this Province.

On May 16th, 1918, while doing some outdoor entomological work in that part of Montreal mountain bordering the grounds of the Outremont Golf Club, I noticed that every time the sweeping net was being emptied of its contents, a good supply of this little beetle could be dropped into the killing bottle. The thought struck me of finding out which plant they were being swept off. An active search was then made all around, which soon gave me the desired result. The slow, harmless little being was found in colonies of four, eight or more on the leaves of *Solidago latifolia* L., then but a few inches tall. Some of the plants sheltered no less than a dozen specimens. As it was surely mating time, one would have been able to take hundreds of them in an hour. Never before had I met them in such numbers.

They are most easily taken with the hand, provided you do not touch the plant before seizing the insect; a jerk of the stem will bring down the whole