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## SUGARING FOR NOCTUÆ.

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Having been requested by the worthy Editor of this journal to contribute a few hints on sugaring for Noctuæ, I have endeavored to put together a few notes that may prove serviceable to those who may not have been successful in this method of capture. To begin with, it ought to be a golden rule never to abandon a locality, even should it yield nothing for a few nights. Often have I sugared a new locality night after night, with absolutely no results, but by persevering the moths have become attracted to the place, and, in course of time, were swarming on every tree.

The mixture I have found to answer best is either the common black treacle (not refined syrup), or the very coarsest brown sugar, called, I believe, by the trade, "Jamaica foots." In either case, the sugar or treacle must be thinned down to a proper consistency by means of stale ale, or, what is still better, the thick yeasty residuum from an ale or stout cask. Some collectors add a drop or two of oil of aniseed, and just before brushing on to the trees, a small quantity of rum, but I have really found no benefit from either addition. My receptacle for the mixture is made of zinc, flattened at the sides and rounded at the corners, so as easily to slip into my shooting-coat pocket. It has a brass screw at the neck, with a leather washer, the handle being attached to the brush—an ordinary painter's "sash tool,"—and goes inside the neck and is screwed tight when in the pocket. By this means all soiling the fingers is avoided.

On arriving at my ground, I look for a round with plenty of young trees with stems under twelve inches in diameter, selecting a place interspersed, if possible, by walks and footpaths. The thick, dense portions of woods are of no use, but the outside trees will do very well, provided the trees are not too large and the trunks too rough and corky; choose the trees