

*Ichneumoninae* and *Cryptinae* are the earliest to appear; in fact, I have taken many hibernating specimens of *Ichneumon* and *Amblyteles* safely stored away amid the frost, in some old rotten log or under loose bark.

In collecting species of *Ichneumon*, *Cryptus* and *Ophioninae*, I have had my best success by collecting along a dense, moderately high hedge-fence, and amongst bushes and low trees bordering a forest or a swamp. A person will succeed much better if he will select one spot and watch the specimens as they pass him, rather than to keep constantly on the move. Sometimes better success will come from selecting several spots not far from each other, and collecting alternately from each one.

Three years ago this season I accidentally happened on a little ruse that has since yielded me many rare specimens that otherwise I am sure I should never have obtained. It is merely trampling down a few of the bushes in some spot on the edge of the thicket where one wishes to collect. As an Ichneumonid comes along, it will almost invariably make a slight halt over or near the trampled vegetation. The halt, though hardly noticeable, is sufficient for one to scoop the specimen with the net. The rare *Ichneumon albomarginatus*, Cr., is such a shy and rapid flyer that I was never able to capture one until this method was used. The *why* of this method is probably explained by the fact that the bruised plants give off a similar odour to what they would were they eaten by some caterpillar, and the parasite halts to look for the cause of the odour.

Late in the autumn, after frosts have killed the flowers, and larvæ have mostly pupated, I have been very successful in collecting *Tryphoninae* and other *Ichneumonidae* on a little isolated group of larches, located on our college grounds. The parasites and wasps found something to feed upon that attracted them for at least two weeks. There were no plant-lice to be found, and apparently it was the pitch or resin.

The wingless *Pezomachus* I have most commonly found on herbaceous plants in waste places. The best method of securing them is by sweeping. A collector may have fair success in sweeping for other parasites, especially the smaller species, but generally his catch will consist mostly of the commoner species. With a little practice, a collector will accustom his eye so that he will readily spy even the minute Ichneumonids as they approach him on the wing. Of course, rearing parasites is a very desirable way of obtaining them, but we must both rear and collect if the greatest progress is to be made.