

Daily Adult Eclosion check of Song/No Song populations

By Laura Lara 3/28/2014

Supplies:

- Wing clippers in drawer next to sink between incubators
- White gel pen in same drawer
- “Clip Me” stickers on pink pencil case in same drawer
- Clipboard hanging on wall in incubator room with pen
- Any cage cleaning supplies you may need should you encounter messy crickets

Solitary Crickets:

- If container does NOT say “clp ✓” then check on the cricket. If it has wings, it has undergone eclosion. If you are not cleared to clip the wings yourself, add a not that says “clip me.” If you are cleared to clip the wings...
- Make sure the right wing is on top, do not clip the left wing. If the cricket is a normal wing (NW), then clip the scraper from the right wing. If the cricket is a flat wing (FW), clip the same general area you would have with a NW.
- Write the number 1 your cricket’s pronotum using the white gel pen.
- Write “clp ✓” on the label with a red pen.
- Write today’s date on the orange label starting with D0.
- Write today’s date on the clipboard for your cricket (his ID information should be on the label and the clipboard).
- Write your crickets wing morph, FW or NW, on both his personal label and the clipboard.
- Check how many days there are between your cricket’s date of isolation and his date of adult eclosion. If there are fewer than 12-14 days, the cricket won’t be used in the trials. If it’s too soon, write “Too Soon!” in red on the label and in any color on the clipboard where it says “date tested.”
- If it is NOT too soon, then write your crickets number six days from today on the calendar on the Song incubator. That will be his behavior trial.
- You did it!

Group Crickets

- Check the lid for how many adults have already undergone adult eclosion and been clipped. For example, if box 12 has 3 adults, the label should show 12.01, 12.02 and 12.03 and the next cricket to undergo adult eclosion will be 12.04. Check if there are any new adults without a number.
- If you find a new adult, you may add the “clip me” label if you are not trained in wing-clipping. But if you are cleared to clip the wings...
- Make sure the right wing is on top, do not clip the left wing. If the cricket is a normal wing (NW), then clip the scraper from the right wing. If the cricket is a flat wing (FW), clip the same general area you would have with a NW.
- Write “clp ✓” on the label with a red pen.

- Write today's date on the orange label starting with D0.
- Write today's date on the clipboard for your cricket (his ID information should be on the label and the clipboard).
- Write your cricket's wing morph, FW or NW, on both his personal label and the clipboard.
- Check how many days there are between your cricket's date of isolation and his date of adult eclosion. If there are fewer than 12-14 days, the cricket won't be used in the trials. If it's too soon, write "**Too Soon!**" in red on the label and in any color on the clipboard where it says "date tested."
- If it is NOT too soon, then write your cricket's number six days from today on the calendar on the Song incubator. That will be his behavior trial.
- Write your cricket's new number on his pronotum using the white gel pen.
- Check the rest of the cricket's numbers. If any are starting to rub off, fix them before they are gone completely. Don't write a number on a cricket unless you are 100% certain you know what its number is.

Uh-Oh!!! My cricket is white!

- If your cricket is currently undergoing eclosion, determine whether he is becoming an adult or just an older baby. If he has wings now, he is becoming an adult. In that case, try to determine his wing morph and record all of his information as you would with any other cricket.
- Put a "clip me" label on his container and either come back in a few hours or the next day to clip his wing and write a number on his pronotum.

Uh-Oh!!! Someone died!

- If he is solitary, it is not a huge problem. If he is in a group box, check the clipboard to see if he has already run his trial. If he has, then that's okay. If he hasn't, let Susan know. Either way, you should dispose of your cricket with the garbage that goes in the freezer to eventually be autoclaved. Record his fate on the data spreadsheet (i.e., "dead on 3/28/14").