



Hoverfly Lagoons

Instructions

1. Cut the top off the bottle and recycle.



2. Pierce holes with the pen an inch below the brim to allow water flow.
3. Fill bottle with grass or leaf litter, compress content, and fill up to the pierced holes, weigh on scales.
4. Insert sticks, reaching bottom to top.
5. Fill with water.
6. Add a layer of leaf litter on top.
7. Stand lagoon in tray filled with dry leaf litter for larvae to pupate in.
8. Search once a month and [submit findings on online form](#) (see overleaf)

You will need:

- A 2 or 4-pint plastic milk bottle*
- Scissors
- A pen for piercing holes
- A tray with drainage holes
- A basin
- Kitchen scales and measuring jug
- A jar or insect tube
- Some sticks
- A bag of leaf litter
- Lagoon content: grass cuttings or leaf litter



* Can use any container of similar size (4-pint: 15 x 12 x 10cm, 2-pint: 15 x 7 x 7cm)



Methods video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PeZSUWy71D4&t=19s>

Webpage: http://thebuzzclub.uk/Hoverfly_Lagoons.php

Email: hoverflylagoons@gmail.com

Twitter: @HoverflyLagoons



Hoverfly Lagoons

How many lagoons to make?

We want to determine if **size** and **content** is important for attracting hoverflies.

To help us answer this question, we're asking you to create **2 or 4 lagoons**, from the following options:

- Option 1:** 1 x leaf litter (4-pint bottle)
1 x grass clippings lagoon (4-pint bottle)



- Option 2:** 1 x leaf litter (2-pint bottle)
1 x leaf litter (4-pint bottle)



- Option 3:** 1 x grass clippings (2-pint bottle)
1 x grass clippings (4-pint bottle)



- Option 4:** 1 x leaf litter (2-pint bottle)
1 x leaf litter (4-pint bottle)
1 x grass clippings (2-pint bottle)
1 x grass clippings (4-pint bottle)



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Hoverfly Lagoons

Instructions: monthly surveys

1. Top up lagoon with water, if required.
2. Empty entire content into basin to locate and count larvae, record volume of solid content using measuring jug.

Email photos to us at
hoverflylagoons@gmail.com
and tweet us @HoverflyLagoons



Larvae



Pupae

3. Return everything to the lagoon.
4. Search tray leaf litter for pupae.
5. Carefully transfer pupae into jam jars with pierced lid/air holes and monitor daily for adults.
6. Return lagoon to seed tray and to a shaded location.
7. **Email findings or submit via our online form:**
<https://tinyurl.com/hover2017>.



Adult Tiger hoverfly



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