

## ROOFING PAPER UNDER ALL-PURPOSE TRAPS

By Stephen W. Simon

Weeds and sprouting bird seed are a problem of the past since using roofing paper under all-purpose traps. This is the third year that the original pieces have been used without deterioration. A roll of 45 pound asphalt treated felt (without a granular surface) costs under \$3.00 and is enough for two traps with some left over. Three lengths are cut a little longer than the width of the trap and are overlapped side by side to make a floor beneath the trap. A small piece is used under the gathering cage.

Scratch feed and sunflower seed last much longer with a base such as this, and of course these, and weeds, cannot sprout. When traps are relocated the floor is equally easy to move. Birds seem to enter the traps with the floor as readily as they did before.

Another reason for trying a tar-paper floor was to counteract the effects of the Pine Mouse (*Pitymys pinetorum*) that continually raised the earth under the traps by tunnelling in the same manner as a mole. This situation was alleviated, but the Pine Mouse and the Deer Mouse (*Peromyscus leucopus*) still deleted the supply of sunflower seed by passing at will in and out of the trap entrances. This has been controlled somewhat by mouse traps being placed near the traps. An inverted box, raised slightly off the ground, should be placed over the mouse traps to prevent birds such as Titmice from being attracted by the mixture of peanut butter and rolled oats used as bait. Mouse traps should be tied to stakes to keep mice that are not completely caught from dragging them away.

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## MORE BOOKS FOR BANDERS

By Harvey W. Brewer

Frank P. Frazier's list of "Basic Books for Banders" (Ebba News, 20:71) was of particular interest to me. Of the nine books Mr. Frazier listed eight are on my shelves. By occupation I am a bookseller, though my firm does not deal in books on Natural History. I would like to suggest thirteen books in addition to those which Mr. Frazier recommended.

All are currently available. No out-of-print books are listed either by Mr. Frazier or myself. With the current prices are listed the names and addresses of the National Audubon Society's Book Department and four specialists in Natural History Books. Any of these booksellers can supply any of the listed books to you except the books marked "order direct".