

An easy method for recording size and configuration of zoological structures.

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(Received: April 21, 1987)

Resumen: Se sugiere el uso del fotocopiado para registrar y medir estructuras animales, como alas de insectos, panales de abeja, etc. Esto puede sustituir el dibujo en algunos casos.

Since the arrival of the African bee *Apis mellifera scutellata (adansonii?)* in Costa Rica in 1983, I have been collecting, measuring and storing combs as museum specimens.

Storing honeybee combs has several problems; if they are not fumigated periodically they are attacked and destroyed by wax moths (*Achroia grisella*, *Galleria mellonella*) and other insects. They can also become moldy or crumble. To avoid those problems honeybee comb were measured and then photocopied. Measurements were also taken in the photocopies, and no important differences were found.

Wings of the odonat *Megalopresus caerulatus* and the nymphalid *Hamadryas februa* were also photocopied obtaining reliable duplications.

Photocopying could also be used to record shapes, sizes and venation of leaves, forms of some animals, etc. Ramalho (1970), informs about the use of photocopying for plant structures.

REFERENCE

- Ramalho, R.S. 1970. Copiadoras de documentos, una ayuda para la enseñanza de la dendrología. Turrialba 20: 511-513.