

Guam Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Project

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Container for Secure Shipment of Live Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Adults

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A few years ago, we were asked to provide live CRB adults to be used in experiments conducted in the laboratory of Dr. Eric Jang at the USDA-ARS Pacific Basin Research Center. Shipments were made under conditions specified by a USDA-APHIS 526 permit issued to Dr. Jang. The first batches of beetles were shipped in Mason jars packed in the cardboard box in which they were purchased. On one occasion, a jar was broken during shipment. Fortunately, the beetle did not escape. This incident prompted us to design a more secure shipping container as described here. CRB adults have been shipped in this container many times without incident.

Notes

1. A small hole (1/32") is drilled at the center of each end cap to provide gas exchange.
2. Prior to shipment, a single beetle is placed in each nipple filled with moist peat moss.

Table 1: Parts list.

Item	Quantity
Pelican case; Model 1520	1
nipples; PVC schedule 80; 3" long; 2" internal diam.	12
end caps to fit above	24
High density Styrofoam	1 sheet
peat moss	1 bag



Figure 1: Shipping case.



Figure 2: Nipple and end caps.