

## Types of termites collected using container



Odontotermes species



Nest of Odontotermes



Macrotermes species



Macrotermes mound

## Precaution/Things to remember



- Soldiers of Macrotermes species are known to be poisonous, avoid feeding to poultry
- Avoid trapping in the rainy season as rain may cause the container to be buried deeper in the soil, making it hard to remove (especially for Odontotermes species due to the nature of their nest).
- Remember to water the mounds when the weather is very dry to enhance the catch

## Examples of containers that can be used



Open-top Gourd



Plastic Jerrcan  
(Kuffour gallon cut in half)



Earthen Pot



Metal Can

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# COLLECTION OF TERMITES USING BAITED CONTAINERS (TERMITE TRAPPING)

## Introduction

Insects as an alternate protein source in livestock feeding is a rapidly growing field in recent times. Conventional feed is expensive especially for indigenous poultry farmers.

Termites are an essential feed for small indigenous poultry farmers that have no other affordable sources of protein at their disposal. Termites are collected from chippings of termite mounds or trapped using a container filled with a bait. Termitaria (termite mounds) are abundant in many parts of the country. Termites collected are fed mostly to chicks and keets of guinea fowls for which protein intake is critical for their survival.

This manual shows the procedure for collecting termites using containers as traps. The expectation is that the reader may find it easy to understand and practice, thus allowing him/her to provide a source of cheap protein for their poultry.

### Nutritional profile of termites

Nutrient	Content (mg/100g)
Fat	44.82 – 47.31
Protein	33.51 – 39.74
Carbohydrate	0.72 – 8.73
Iron	53.33 – 115.97
Zinc	7.10 – 12.86

Source: Kinyuru et al., 2013

### The procedure for collecting termites with a baited container is as follows:



1. Obtain a container of any size with an open top.



2. Fill the container with any substrate (organic waste materials) or a mixture of substrates to the brim and secure with flexible stem (false yam stem or young stem of any plant or palm fronds) so that when the container is inverted, the substrate(s) do not pour out.



3. Locate the nest of the termite to be trapped



4. Remove the top soil at the site until you see the nest (characterised by big holes or whitish substances)



5. Moisten the substrate in the container and invert the container on the nest, burying it in the ground. Make sure to cover with sand leaving no part open. \*take care not to over wet the substrate else it will grow mouldy.



6. Cut branches of any plant and place on the buried pot. Leave for 12 hours and collect.



7. Care should be taken during collection of the buried container to prevent the termites from escaping and getting stung by soldier caste (Macrotermes)



8. Pour out harvested termites from container to feed birds

### Examples of substrate that can be used

1. Mango seed



2. Maize cob



3. Dried cow dung



4. Watermelon rinds



5. Fresh groundnut leaves

