

Diagnostic Tip of the Month: Parafilm Dispenser

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A solution reservoir for an 8-channel pipetter makes a good dispenser for precut strips of Parafilm®. I discovered (by accident) that a few drops of 70% ethanol dripped on the top edge and allowed to dry will cause the paper to crinkle slightly and make it much easier to separate the film from the paper when you need it.



Reservoir holding Parafilm® strips. (Photo Julia W. Thompson)

Training Opportunity: The Natural History and Taxonomy of the Carabidae

Carabids are an abundant and diverse group of organisms that have much to teach us regarding the biology and ecology of insects and biological control agents. At this course, we will explore beginning carabid taxonomy (to the genus level for many common groups), collection methods, carabid structure and function as it pertains to feeding ecology, carabid defenses, and the effects of habitat management on carabid populations and conservation. The course is unit-based and very hands on, with each topic being overseen by a national expert.

Tentative cost per student is \$350

Class space is limited, and priority will

be given to students and amateurs.
Please contact Jonathan Lundgren (jonathan.lundgren@ars.usda.gov) by **May 15, 2008** if you are interested

Education and Training

When: June 22-25, 2008

Where: Oak Lake Field Station, Brookings County, South Dakota

Presented by:
• Midwest Biological Control Institute
• International Organization for Biological

Control- Nearctic Regional Section
• Midwestern Carabidologist's Working Group

Volunteers Needed for Booth at 2008 NACAA Meeting

This year's [NACAA meeting will be held July 13-17, 2008 in Greensboro, North Carolina](#). We will have a NPDN First Detector educational booth that will highlight the launch of the [Online Crop Biosecurity Program](#) and other NPDN resources available to educators.

The exhibit will be available during the following dates and times:

July 13, 2008: 1:00pm-6:30pm

July 14, 2008: 8:00am-6:00pm

July 15, 2008: 8:00am-6:00pm

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