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Operating Instruction

Plankton Net acc. to Apstein (Cat. No. 438 030)

The Plankton Net Model 438 030 is used for qualitative collections of plankton in limnology and oceanography.

A minimum of maintenance is required since all metal parts are protected against corrosion.

The standard mesh size of 55 microns is used for the collection of phytoplankton. For collection of zooplankton we recommend a mesh size of 335 microns.

Before operation a steel rope of 2-3 mm dia. or a Nylon rope of 5-6 mm dia. with a suitable length is fastened to the handle ring of the Plankton Net.

Please make sure that the drain cock of the net bucket is closed.

In a vertical haul the entire water column is sampled. The Plankton Net is lowered down into the water until the desired depth has been reached. Then it is slowly hauled up again.

For horizontal collections in the surface water the metal weight can be removed from the net bucket. Then the net is lowered into the water and is towed over the required distance before it is heaved on board again.

After the tow, the plankton material adhering to the net is washed down to the tail and collected in the bucket by spraying the outer net surface with seawater while the net is hanging with the mouth upwards. Thus the plankton material is collected in the net bucket at the end of the net.

The net bucket can be screwed off the net, and the remaining water together with the collected plankton material is let off by opening the drain cock at the net bucket.

It is recommended to rinse the plankton net with fresh water after use to avoid salt incrustation.

