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## Operating Instructions

### Plankton Net acc. to Apstein (Cat. No. 438 050)

The Plankton Net Model 438 050 is used for quantitative vertical collections of plankton in limnology and oceanography.

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.

In order to lower the Plankton Net a steel or Nylon rope of 2-3 mm dia. with suitable length is required. The loop of the rope is fastened by means of the wing screw and must not jut out of the release tube of the closing device.

The lid of the closing device is opened and arrested.

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

The Plankton Net is lowered into the water until the desired depth has been reached. Then it is slowly hauled up again until the required water column has been traversed. Now the messenger is let down on the rope. When it hits the release tube the lid of the closing mechanism is released and closed.

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.

