

# Burying Beetle Baited Trap

## Advanced Activity!!!

Use the same pitfall trap, but add a bait to trap for burying and carrion beetles.

- The American burying beetle, like all burying and carrion beetles, use dead animals for their reproduction and food source.
- Using a bait that imitates the smell of dead animal can attract them to your trap!
- Be sure to **NOT** add soapy water to your cups this time, in case of collecting American burying beetles (remember, they are protected under the Endangered Species Act!)

## What you need:

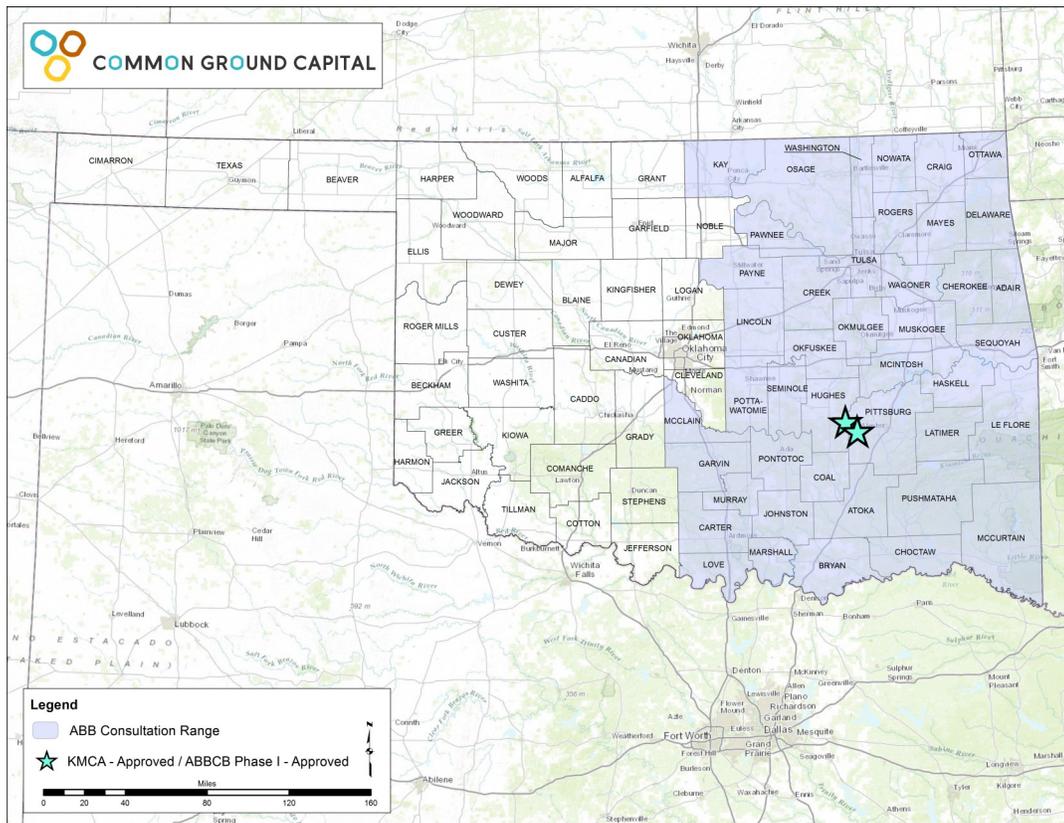
- Two solo cups or similar sized cups (yogurt cup, etc)
- A shovel
- Styrofoam plate
- Chopsticks
- Danny King's Catfish Punch Bait (available at Walmart)

*This can be added in a smaller cup or a baggie with holes in it, and placed inside your pitfall cups*



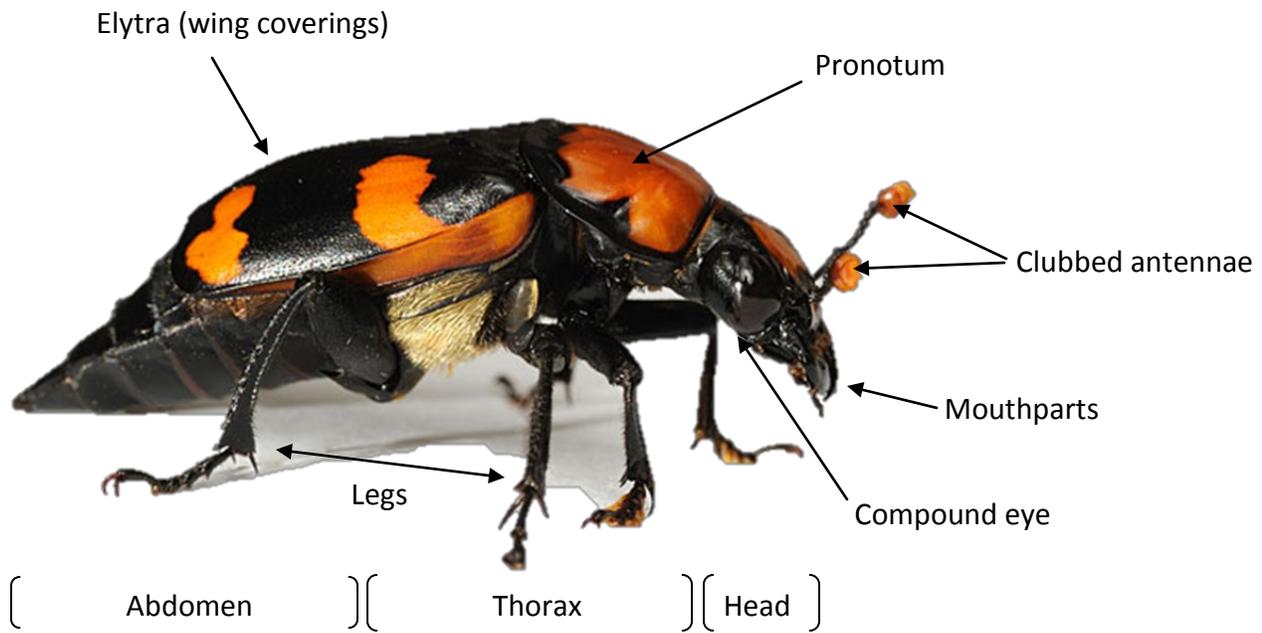
## ABB are in OK!

Please be aware of your location and the possibly of catching American burying beetles. If you are in any of the eastern, blue counties of Oklahoma shown below, please use your pitfall trap with caution! Check them frequently, so as not to let the beetles trapped for too long.



# Oklahoma's Brightest Orange!

## ABB Anatomy



## Look Closely!



The **American burying beetle** has distinctive orange markings on its head, pronotum and elytra. But, don't be fooled! Other species have similar markings.

- Can you tell the difference between these two?
- Which one is the American burying beetle?



American Burying Beetle  
*Nicrophorus americanus*

What color is the pronotum?



*Nicrophorus marginatus*

# Common Burying & Carrion Beetle Identification:



*Nicrophorus marginatus*

“Marg” have bright orange bands that connect on their sides.



*Nicrophorus carolinus*

“Carols” have small orange markings, the bottom two in a “C” shape. There is no notch on the pronotum.



*Nicrophorus tomentosus*

“Toms” also have bright orange bands, but they do not connect. The pronotum is yellow and fuzzy.



*Necrodes surinemensis*

They have a flatter, wider appearance, with tiny orange dots at the bottom of the elytra.



*Nicrophorus orbicollis*

“Orbies” have smaller orange markings that are more circular. There is a notch in the middle of the pronotum.



*Necrophilia americana*

They are flattened and round, no orange markings but they have a distinctly yellow pronotum.

