

A CAPTURE SYRINGE FOR USE WITH A BOW AND ARROW OR CROSSBOW

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Using a nylon syringe, a barbed hypodermic needle, two elastic bands, a piece of copper wire and a piece of polythene tubing, it is possible to make an efficient capture syringe to fit on to the end of an arrow or crossbow bolt for under £1. The principle employed is that the drug is held in the syringe under tension provided by the two elastic bands, and is prevented from escaping by a polythene tip placed over the end of the needle. On hitting the animal, the polythene tip is perforated and the injection delivered by the elastic bands.

This apparatus is extremely cheap and simple to make and can be used for the injection of up to 20 ml. drug. Using a 5 ml. syringe and a long bow, the range is about 60 yards. With a crossbow, it is possible to achieve an even greater range and accuracy. The crossbow assembly will be demonstrated.

(A detailed description of the syringe, with illustrations, has been published elsewhere. The reference is Short, R. V. 1963. A syringe projectile for use with a bow and arrow. *Vet. Record* 75 (35): 883–885.)