

## AN INEXPENSIVE INSTRUMENT ENCLOSURE FOR OUTDOOR DATA COLLECTION

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Field data are frequently collected with some type of recorder. The protection of these instruments from inclement weather and vandals is often a problem. An inexpensive solution can be provided by using a discarded refrigerator. Such boxes are easily obtained and can be converted with

very little effort into ideal outdoor instrument enclosures.

One of our refrigerators was equipped with an internal power outlet to the recorder. The thermostat and cooling unit were supplemented with a thermostatically controlled heater to maintain a moderate and constant temperature year round. A second refrigerator housed an electric fence pulser, extra charts, a field notebook, and tools. Locks were added and the seals water-proofed.

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