

The approaching

Bugs pictures can essentially be takings in two ways: or stopping in a place full of flowers, to wait some bugs, or trying to look for them, watching out for what surrounds you.

Don't twist the nose, this first technique seems to you very strange, none of bugs will approach to you, but that technique works very well. If during our walk, we meet some puddles of water, we can stop...because bugs are attracted by the water.

Fig. 1: damp zones and puddles of water are the best places for “photographic captures”



A second suggestion, and this belongs to organization, is to try to know habits bugs that you are trying to photograph.



Dragonflies are for instance territorial, they usually control their space always standing on same branch, if when you approach to them you with calm, without making abrupt movements, you can observe that they fly away flight, after few minutes they come back to the same stem from which they had departed. After individualized them If you will be patient, you can make many releases, also with a lot of calm, we will have enough time to change our settings camera.

Fig. 2: with territorial bugs the winning choice is “patience”

Walking, there will be easier to come upon in ladybirds instead, spiders, caterpillars... all bugs that if not disturbed they will keep on developing their actions; these subjects normally allow to take lots of pictures.

The same happens when we look at bottom of leaves and flowers, where we can often find excellent "photographic preys".



Fig. 3: it is possible to meet photographic preys under a corolla flowers or to the "inferior page" of leaves

In case of butterflies, these will hardly allow you to approach them to few centimeters, you have to have much patience and above all it is important to take care at your shade end.

In the approach to the bugs there are some small expedients that can turn useful.

Bugs are influenced by environment temperature if you will go to take picture early in the morning, its fresh air will make them be slower giving you an advantage.

Another advice will be that to bring with you - usually in a box as those for photographic films - a small quantity of honey, diluted with some water: you have to deposit some small drops with a toothpick on flower or leaf. Honey perfume and sugars presences will become an irresistible bait and you will take pictures with more calm. I recommend during your "walk" to leave these baits in the best light position... when we will come back we will verify if they have worked.

During winter periods, finally, we try to move stones or pebbles under which bugs are hidden, using some protective gloves. However, I advise you to always make such operation with a lot of caution (even using a baton) and never in summer time. Under stones in fact can be found vipers or "others clients" whose bite it would give us... a bit annoyance.



Fig. 4: also lifting stones it is possible to individualize photographic preys