

InsectBall

Behavior in the Lab and in the Field

Striatech's InsectBall, developed by Hansjürgen Dahmen at the University of Tübingen, is an air-cushioned treadmill with robust design. It is light-weight and portable. It can be used indoors in the lab, but just as easily in the field. This allows studying insect navigation and locomotion in their natural habitat.



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Features and Applications

Natural locomotion

Extremely light-weight styrofoam ball: animal can perform locomotion with natural acceleration, deceleration and orienting. Improved tethering allows natural posture and motion.

Robust hardware, flexible use

Easy to transport, easy to set up: use in the lab or in the natural habitat of your research model.

Available for different species

Different sizes suitable for different research organisms: Drosophila, Ants, Bees, Cockroaches, Locusts, ...

Open- or closed-loop configuration

Open-loop: Animal orientation is fixed in real-world coordinates, animal rotation is reflected as rotation of the ball. Good for experiments with other equipment (air puffs, olfactory cues, visual stimuli, physiological recordings, ...).

Closed-loop: Animal can freely rotate around its yaw axis.

Contact **Striatech GmbH**
Vor dem Kreuzberg 17
72070 Tübingen
Germany

 **+49 7071 53913-0**
 **info@stria.tech**
 **www.stria.tech**

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