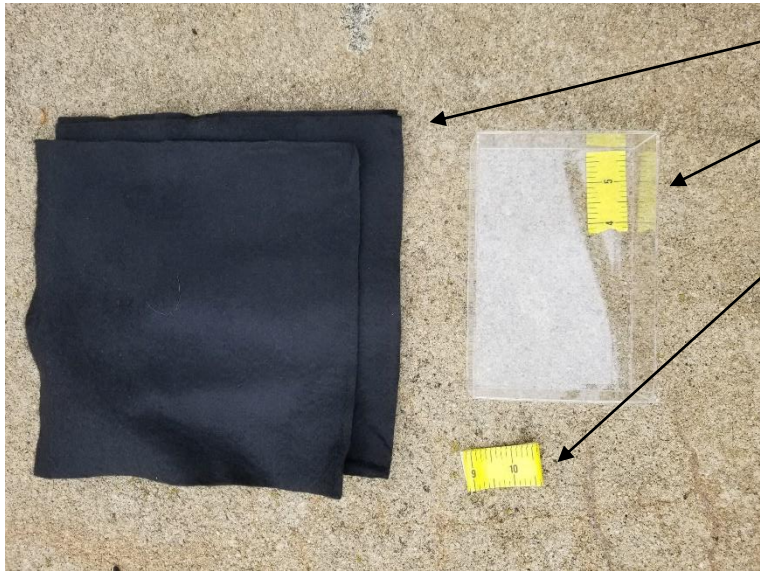


## Megalopae Measurements: Photo Technique

**Goal:** Take two photographs of the same 30 megalopae so that they can be measured using computer software

### Materials:



1. **Black felt**
2. **Clear tray with stick on measuring tape**
3. **Extra measuring tape roll (to replace what's in the tray when necessary)**

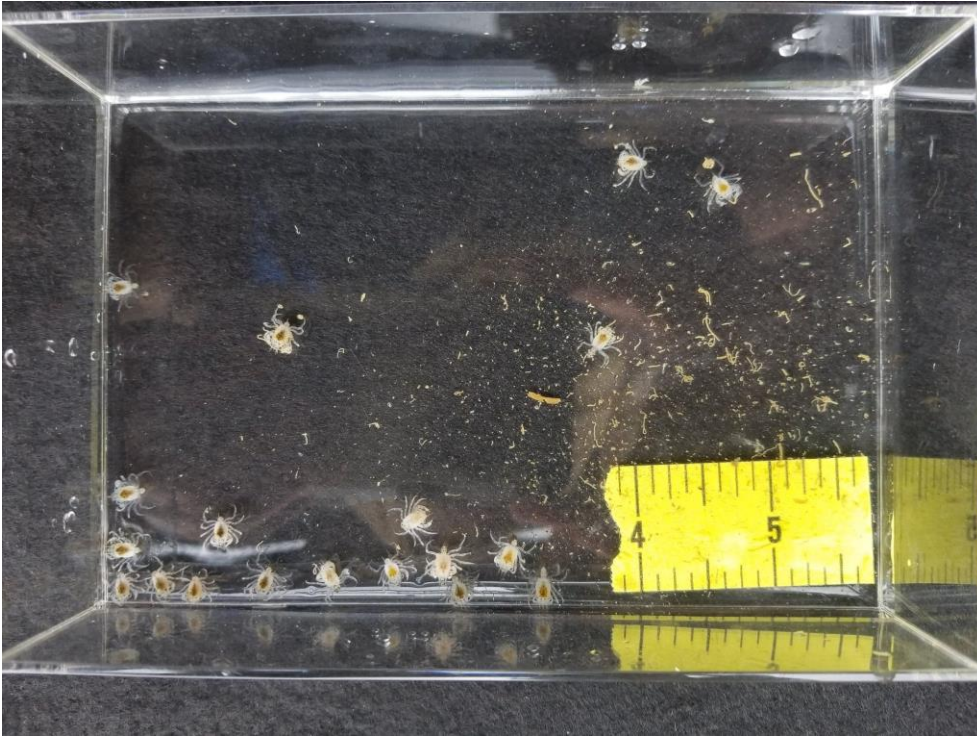
### Instructions:

1. Place the black felt onto a flat surface and place the tray on top of it
2. Place 30 megalopae (or as many as you caught that day if less than 30) into the clear tray
3. Ensure there is only enough water to cover the megalopae (this prevents them from swimming to different distances from the camera)
4. Within the Measurement section of Device Magic, **take two photos** of the whole tray of megalopae (two photos of the same megalopae increases the odds that we can measure all of them)
5. Check that the photos are clear, not too blurry, and that there is as little glare as possible reflecting off the tray (see example below)
6. Return the megalopae to the water as soon as you are done to minimize stress

### Important guidance for taking the photo:

- Get as close as you can to the tray with the camera while ensuring the whole tray is in the frame and that the megalopae are in focus
- Avoid oblique angles: Ensure that the camera (phone/tablet) is **level with the tray and directly above it** (see images below for more info)
- If you are with someone else, ask them to check your angle from the side to ensure that it is level with the tray
- It helps to take the photo in the shade or with someone else shading the sun to prevent glare
- Try to move the megalopae away from the measuring tape so they are on the black background

**Example:**



- Entire tray within frame
- Megalopae as in focus as possible
- No megalopae on the tape
- Camera was level with the tray
- Glare reduced as much as possible

**Avoid oblique angles**



Image on the left is from directly above, image on the right is oblique, and measurements will be off.