

Triumph Master Grip Originally to be Called Super-Grip?

In 1928, Walter Arnold wrote the Triumph Trap Company and told Frances E Adams about his dislike for the Easy Set Trap. On February 7, 1930, Adams responded and said they had been experimenting and redesigning to eliminate every feature to which Walter objected.

Adams said they produced a new trap which they called the Super Grip. The size made was a No. 3, called the Fox Trap. It was the only model they had and they sent it to Walter to review. Adams wanted it back by February 15.

Adams said the Super Grip had skeletonized spring levers, to improve action and non-clogging benefits. The construction allowed use of ordinary sticks to set the trap.

He wanted Walter to experiment with the trap to see if a fox could trip the pan and not get caught, regardless of the angle of approach. Adams thought they had eliminated the clumsy appearance, excess

weight, and increased how high the spring lever rose on the jaws.

Adams also wanted to know if Walter thought the trap would be improved by having a 1/4" to 3/8" offset. He noted that this would prevent crushing the foot and increase blood circulation.

Adams said they were not going to make the tools for the trap until Walter and other fox trappers accepted the trap or provided improvements. He wanted Walter's candid, constructive criticism.

Besides the letter on Triumph Trap Company letterhead, another sheet was provided telling of the improvements of the Super Grip trap. Even though the letter and additional sheet said Super Grip, Adams' was clearly discussing the Master Grip.

The Triumph Super Grip was only made in the following sizes: No. 1, 1 1/2, and 2. While the Master Grip was only made in No. 34 and

No. 34-X. It is interesting to note that the letter discusses a No. 3, the additional sheet discusses a No. 4, and the final trap was numbered No. 34.

So the question is whether the Master Grip was originally going to be called the Super Grip or did Adams make a mistake when typing up the letter and additional sheet for Walter?

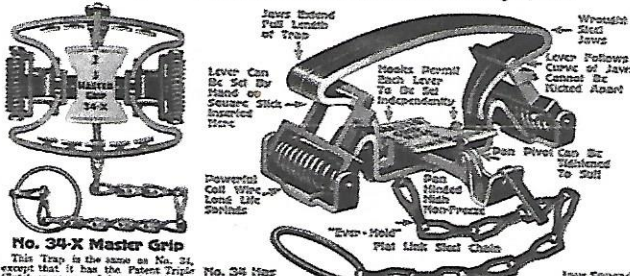
More about Walter Arnold's involvement with the Triumph Trap Company and other trap companies can be found in my new book titled "Arnold Unknown: The Complete, Untold Life of the Maine Legend, Walter Lewellen Arnold, 1894 - 1980." Please see the advertisement inside the back cover of this magazine. Please note my address has changed. Thanks.

Scot H. Dahms
Wilmington, Ohio

"Master Grip"

(Has all the Compactness of a No. 2)
With the Catching Range of a No. 4)

For Fox, Otter, Coyote, Wolf, Lynx, Beaver, Badger, Etc.



No. 34-X Master Grip
This Trap is the same as No. 34, except that it has the Patent Triple Catch escape proof jaws that do not break loose.

No. 34-X Trap
Plain Jaws

EXPERT FOX TRAPPERS
Will be keen for the small trap with the big jaw spread. Just see how easy it will be to excavate for Master Grip. No outside or overlapping parts difficult to enter and conceal.

And the Holding power is just as effective at the extreme end of the trap jaws as at the center. If the animal trips the pan even with a squirrel, he's caught—no pull outs, no pretzles.

No. 34 MASTER GRIP TRAP
Plain Jaw Spread
Trap, 3 1/2" x 10", 25 lbs.
Price, Ea. 25c.

No. 34-X MASTER GRIP TRAP
Triple Catch Jaws
Trap, 3 1/2" x 10", 25 lbs.
Price, Ea. 51c.

Wedge Lever Setting, Double Hook Set, Made Insect Proof, New Pat. No. 228, The Mailing Co.

TRIUMPH — ONEIDA
TRAP COMPANY, INCORP. STATE OF NEW YORK

Double Jaw Super-Grip

A Low Cost Gnaw-Proof Trap. The Outstanding Success of 1930

Both Jaws Lie Flat

Only in these traps do the jaws lie flat. This feature enables you to obtain the double catch range and the extra wide range of the jaws in any size.

The jaws will remain closed during the entire period of setting, whether the animal is in the trap or not. No. 1 Super-Grip is the only trap in which the jaws will remain closed during the entire period of setting, whether the animal is in the trap or not.

No. 1 Super-Grip is the only trap in which the jaws will remain closed during the entire period of setting, whether the animal is in the trap or not.

No. 1 SUPER-GRIP
100% extra wide for double catch, double jaws.
Double catch 7 1/2", 25 lbs. extra wide.

No. 1 1/2 SUPER-GRIP
100% extra wide for double catch, double jaws.
Double catch 8 1/2", 25 lbs. extra wide.



No. 1 Long Spring Super-Grip

The Double Jaw Trap is not new, and many high priced models have been available for years. But the DOUBLE JAW SUPER-GRIP, of a price almost as low as the ordinary single trap, has revolutionized the way with trappers all over North America. But only in the DOUBLE JAW SUPER-GRIP are you offered the most advantage and convenience that **DOUBLE JAW** has ever offered. Double jaws, with no bone leakage, and at today's low price, every trapper can afford this **Double Jaw** Trap.

No. 1 1/2 Super-Grip

The trapper who values compactness will find in No. 1 1/2 Super-Grip a combination of light weight, exceptional holding power, a lightning like snap without bone leakage, all at a low price he can well afford to pay. This self contained trap is available for hole and den sets. As a single trap it has no equal. Backed by Triumph Quality and the rigid Triumph Guarantee, No. 1 1/2 Super-Grip represents unusual value.

All Traps Guaranteed

Every trap made by Triumph is fully guaranteed against weak springs, broken springs and all other defects for one entire season. This protects Merchant and Trapper against any possible loss from defective merchandise.

TRIUMPH TRAP COMPANY
INCORPORATED
ONEIDA, NEW YORK

TRAP BRANDS
 "Triumph" Trips
 "Easy Set" Trips
 "Fox Grip" Trips
 "Super Grip" Trips
 "Easy Grip" Trips
 "Ever-Hold" Trips
 "Quick-Set" Trips
 "Quick-Set" Straps

GUARANTEED

Every Trap made by this fully guaranteed company is made of the finest material and is set with the most perfect springs. If we don't squarely believe in our product, you can't believe in it. We have no competitors.

February 7, 1930.

Mr. Walter L. Arnold,
Guilford, Me.

Dear friend Arnold,

Ever since you wrote us in 1928 of your dislike for the Easy Set Trap, we have been experimenting and redesigning with the intent of eliminating every feature to which you and your associates objected.

We have now produced a new trap which we call Super Grip. The size that I am sending you is No. 3, the Fox Trap. This is the only model that we have and I would appreciate its prompt return at least so we may receive it by February 15th.

In Super Grip we have skeletonized the spring levers, securing great activity and non-clogging benefits. Furthermore, this construction has permitted us to use an ordinary stick as a setting device. We hope you will make every possible experiment to determine to your satisfaction that a fox could not trip the pan of this trap and not get caught, regardless of the angle of approach. You will also see how practically impossible it would be to freeze this trap up to a degree that would be inoperative, even in a buried snow set.

We think we have eliminated all of the clumsy appearance, the excess weight, and in addition both spring levers rise very high on the jaws.

It would be possible to put on stronger springs, but we think we have all of the pep and power that could possibly be used to advantage.

When you write us, will you favor us with your opinion of whether this trap would be improved by having the jaws offset, leaving a space of from 1/4" to 3/8". This would prevent crushing an animal's leg, would permit a certain degree of blood circulation and yet would hold the foot with little danger of abrasion to the skin.

SEVERAL FEATURES AVAILABLE IN THE NEW SUPER-GRIP TRAP.

Most compact of all traps. No part of the trap extends beyond the jaw faces. This greatly shortens the length and lightens the weight.

The skeleton wedge lever prevents clogging. It rises easily thru earth covering.

The operating lever is shorter, securing more power with less spring tension. Rises high on the jaws, even when the trap is partly closed over an animal's leg. Cannot be forced open. Positively no slippage.

The new lever can be set either with thumb, or with stick introduced between thumb extension and parallel bar.

No moving parts extend out into the stepping space within the jaws.

Trap sets absolutely flt. Held against tilting by crossarm and spring supports.

The jaw pivots are grooved. Cannot be dislodged by a captured animal. Spring lever also holds jaws solidly in position when animal is in trap.

The small pan insures capture. Animal cannot trip pan without getting caught.

The new Snap-Setting hooks cannot be clogged. They are automatically thrown out when the trap is set, and held out until the trap is sprung.

Super-Grip has a big jaw spread, both width and length, and the chain is swiveled at the trap center to eliminate all possibility of windup.

Light in weight. No. 4 Super-Grip weighs 2 lbs. 10 ozs. per trap, or 31 1/2 lbs. per dozen. Spread of jaws 7-1/4" at widest point. Extreme length of trap 8-5/4". No other trap of equal spread approaches this extremely light weight, and yet the entire trap is heavy, rugged, and strongly built in every part.

Swivel eyes are welded to the crossarm.

Equipped with Ever-Hold, flat link, steel chain and strong ring.

W.L.A.

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2/7/30.

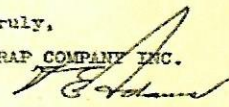
We are not making the tools for this trap until such time as we design a new model which is acceptable to the expert staff of fox trappers who regularly cooperate with us in pointing out trap faults. We invite your candid constructive criticism and shall hope to hear from you the latter part of next week.

The photoprint which we are sending you will illustrate the most convenient method of holding this trap during the setting process. Of course you will realize that the trap can be quite easily set without using the stick, but this is merely an added advantage for trappers who do not possess the necessary thumb strength to depress the spring mechanism.

With kindest regards to yourself and your good father, we remain

Yours very truly,

TRIUMPH TRAP COMPANY INC.



Dictated by
F. E. Adams:EH