

## FLIES



### HOUSEFLY

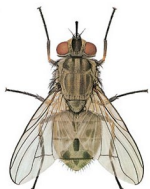
The common housefly (*Musca domestica*) is a nuisance as well as being a potential carrier of diseases to man and domestic animals.

In two weeks, one fly may lay more than 1,000 eggs in animal excrement, garbage, kitchen refuse, piled lawn clippings and other decomposing plant and animal matter. In warm weather, the life cycle (egg to adult) usually takes 8 days. Warm or protected environments may permit fly reproduction year-round.

In cities, larval (maggot) sources of houseflies can usually be found within the distance of a city block, although the flies may sometimes travel several miles.

Besides the grayish-black housefly, several other kinds of flies are found in the home. Control of these is the same as for the housefly, although control of their maggots varies.

The male lesser housefly (*Fannia canicularis*) characteristically flies to and fro in the middle of the room, garage or shady areas. The female rests on wall surfaces in shady areas. Seldom landing on human food, they are less apt to contaminate food than the true housefly. Maggots develop from eggs laid in well-decayed vegetable matter or in animal excrement. The life cycle requires about 24 days.



### STABLE FLY

The stable fly (*Stomoxys calcitrans*) resembles the housefly, but has a slender, pointed beak with which it pierces skin and sucks blood. It is normally an outdoor fly, feeding on domesticated animals, but may enter houses in rainy weather.

To control stable fly maggots, each week dispose of stable manure, urine-soaked straw, moist, spilled feed and moist, decaying vegetation, like lawn clippings.



### BLOW FLY

The blow fly is larger than the common housefly. Several species are characterized by shiny, metallic colors: black, *Phormia*; blue, *Calliphora*; and green or copper, *Phaenicia*. They make a loud droning buzz and will lay eggs on exposed meat "flyblown flesh." The larva development of the green or copper blow fly, most commonly found in garbage wastes and pet droppings, is completed in less than a week while that of the black or blue blow fly requires 10 to 15 days.

## USE OF PESTICIDES

If using pesticides, choose a type specifically recommended for flies. Carefully follow the manufacturer's directions. Use only for the intended purpose.

### SPACE SPRAYS

May contain pyrethrins or synthetics such as allethrin or permethrin with synergists. Use inside or in patio/porch areas.

### SURFACE SPRAYS

Residual sprays are longer lasting but are more hazardous. They are labeled for outdoor use only.

### FLY TRAPS

Nonpoisonous attractant traps may be purchased at feed stores or garden supply retailers. These traps should be used at least 25 feet away from your residence.