

## NEWSLETTER

### WHAT'S FLYIN' AROUND

Let's take a look into which flies have been taking over your home this summer!

"The potential reproductive capacity of flies is tremendous. Scientists have calculated that a pair of flies beginning reproduction in April may be progenitors, under optimal conditions and if all were to live, of 191,010,000,000,000,000,000 flies by August."

Hussein Sanchez-Arroyo and John L. Capinera, University of Florida

#### Stable Fly

- Often confused for house flies - until they bite.
- Protruding piercing/sucking mouthpart, both males and females feed on blood.
- Feed on the legs of livestock and even humans
- Rainy and cool periods in August cause another flare-up of stable flies
- Highly attracted to carbon dioxide and fresh blood



#### Horn Fly

- Horn flies are about half the size of the housefly
- Small blood-feeder
- Ferocious and painful biters
- Maggots only develop in cattle manure and do best in the grass manure of pastured cattle
- More prevalent in the spring and the fall, drop in the population during the height of summer heat



#### Face Fly

- Smaller than house, horn and stable flies
- Female face flies typically cluster around the host animal's eyes, mouth and muzzle, causing extreme annoyance
- Female flies do not bite, instead they feed off of wounds and/or previous bites from other insects
- Male flies feed only on nectar and dung
- The main source of nematode eye worm, *Thelasia sp.*, infections in horses and cattle



#### House Fly

- House flies utilize garbage, manure, and a wide array of other organic materials for food.
- Populations double in July through September
- Without food, they survive only about two to three days
- Potential transmission of pathogens
- House flies are attracted to white surfaces and to baits that give off odors.



#### Controlling flies

Traps- fly traps and fly ribbons may be useful in some fly control programs if enough are used.

Effective control (for livestock) can be achieved with forced treatment methods such as dust bags, oilers and insecticide-impregnated ear tags. Whole-animal sprays will provide temporary relief, but need to be re-applied on a regular basis, typically every 10-14 days

Repellents - there are fly repellents a couple we've tried are; (Zevo (on body), DEET products at least 10% deet For a more natural approach try; cedarwood, citronella and lemongrass oils



Spalangia fly parasite wasp

Predatory insects - The egg hatches, and the wasp larva feeds on the fly pupa

### INSECT FIND OF THE MONTH

#### Cicada Killer Wasp

The cicada killer wasp is not the same as the Murder Hornets that are such a threat. This big wasp is much different as their name implies, they're toxic, but they're only a threat to the cicada. You'll start seeing them more in the late summer months because they nest in the ground.



GCWP identifies unknown insects, if you find a plant or insect, bring it in and we'll do our best to identify the pest.



#### STAY IN THE KNOW

- Aug 3 - Goshen County Fair Day (office closed)
- Aug 10- GCWP Board Meeting
- Farmer's Market on Thursdays!

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