



Dark and Red Eyed Fruit Fly Fact and Management Tactic Sheet

Overview:

- Correction of some basic sanitation and structural issues will go a long way toward eliminating small fly problems.
- We will make recommendations for steps you can take to help reduce fly problems.
- Small flies are breeding inside of your building. Eliminating their breeding areas is the best method for long-term control.
- Flies enter from open doors, windows or in produce.

Fly Biology

Fruit Flies are about 1/8" long with tan to dark brown or black bodies and large red or dark eyes. Yeast driven decay (fermentation) of carbohydrates can occur anywhere food and moisture collect and are undisturbed, such as any crack or crevice in food areas or in drains. Fruit Fly larva feed on this yeast, so any bar or restaurant is full of potential breeding areas. Fruit Flies are not attracted to mechanical light traps as are other flies, such as House Flies. Light traps will capture Fruit Flies, but will not control them.

Key Action Items:

- Daily cleaning under equipment and counters, to remove any spilled food.
- Washing garbage containers regularly,
- Emptying mop buckets and hanging mops up so that they dry after each use
- Sealing cracks in floor tile and between baseboards and walls.
- All insects need moisture to live. It's important to fix any leaks in water lines or drain lines to prevent structural and odor problems, and chronic insect infestations.
- Inspect delivered produce. If flies are seen on or in this source, reject it immediately.

Products we use:

- Fruit Fly traps will pick up some foraging flies and may intercept flies that enter from the outside.
- Borate Solutions applied to conducive areas via a foam dispenser, compressed air unit or in mop water provides excellent control of flies and also provides some cockroach and silverfish control also.
- Our Bio Foam products are designed specifically to eliminate breeding sites for small flies in food areas. These products contain premium, natural, non-pathogenic microbes that digest the scum where flies breed. They also contain natural citrus oil for extra power and smell fresh. We apply these products with special foam applicator equipment.

Summary

- Like larger flies, small flies spread disease, are a nuisance and cost customer good will.
- It is important to work with your pest management professional to help control
- Good sanitation combined with regular use of Borates or Bio Products can eliminate or dramatically reduce small fly problems and eliminate foul odors often without the use of any pesticides or harsh chemicals.