



COMMAND PEST CONTROL

Information sheet number 68 - The Green Cluster Fly



Appearance:

9mm long, a largish fly with a distinctive metallic blue green sheen, not dissimilar to the green bottle

Breeding:

25-30 eggs are laid loosely in cow dung, larvae hatch after 1-3 days and feed for 28 days on this material, and then they pupate in the soil. Pupae hatch after 21-28 days and their season is May to November. They live outdoors; they start to enter buildings in large numbers in late September onwards into November when the temperature begins to fall. They prefer to overwinter in large open structures such as barns

Food:

Cow dung is the food source of the larvae, the adult fly feeds on nectar from flowers, and they only enter buildings in order to hibernate.

Where do Cluster flies live?

South West and mainly South facing buildings are favoured; the flies will invade cladded buildings and will enter roof spaces and voids via small gaps. They will cluster on the exterior of buildings in huge numbers prior to crawling into the harbourages, in the spring the warmth revives them and they start to leave buildings in numbers.

Diseases and damage:

No disease is carried by this fly. They do not breed or feed in buildings and only over-winter in roofs and voids. Their presence can be alarming but they are more an annoyance than a threat to health.

For more advice and control recommendations contact us on 01787 248049