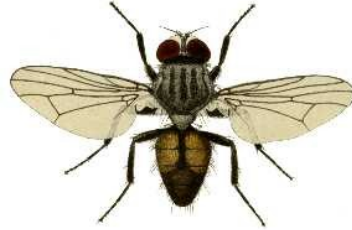




COMMAND PEST CONTROL

Information sheet number 34 - The Lesser House Fly



Appearance:

6mm long with a 12 mm wingspan, grey thorax with 4 longitudinal dark stripes, extensive yellow patch at base of abdomen, at rest wings are folded along back, venation shows 4th vein extending straight to wing margin. The larvae is dull grey-brown and is fairly flat with feathery growths

Breeding:

Approx. 50 eggs are laid in batches when female is 10 days old, they are 1 mm in length they hatch in 24 to 48 hours, larval development 8 days and 3 skin moults, larvae 6mm when full grown, egg to adult normally 3 weeks. The pupae stage lasts from 1-4 weeks.

Food:

All organic matter especially if fermenting. The preference is for decomposing organic matter such as cow or poultry dung, vegetable, fruit or fungal matter; they are able to float in a semi-liquid medium.

Where do Lesser house flies live?

These flies mainly breed in poultry manure which the farmers spread on the fields from poultry houses seasonally, this is the reason why numbers of adult flies are found in or around factories and properties if located in a rural area.

Damage:

This fly exploits bad hygiene practices and proofing defects, it alights on light fittings and doorframes, vomits and defecates. Often spotting is visible. It carries disease and infests food products causing alarm, cost and possible litigation.

For more advice and control recommendations contact us on 01787 248049