



TIPS FOR FLY CONTROL ON LIVESTOCK OPERATIONS

Flies can act as disease vectors. Common flies found on livestock operations include the common house fly, lesser house fly, blow fly, and stable fly, among others.

Here are some tips to help control flies on livestock operations.

- **Know the general lifecycle of the fly species you are dealing with to target the appropriate life stage for maximum control**
- **The most effective way to deal with flies is to target the source, so reduce ideal breeding conditions and target control to prevent eggs from hatching**
 - » Consider adding peat to manure collection areas to help lower pH and soak up moisture, creating a less hospitable environment
- **Issues impacting fly development include poor water drainage, poor air circulation, infrequent manure removal or inadequate facilities, and excess feed and water spillage**
 - » Complete regular maintenance and cleaning
 - » Use fans to circulate air and maintain a dry environment
 - » Feed and manure spills should be cleaned up immediately
- **Use spot cards as an early indicator of increasing fly populations**
- **Use fly control mechanisms to help reduce populations**
 - » Flytraps, bug zappers, fly tape, bait traps
- **Consider long term management changes to reduce fly infestation**
 - » Develop adequate drainage around barns
 - » Develop an efficient and regular manure removal process
 - » Develop proper dry manure storage in a dedicated area and keep it covered (tarp, etc.) when not in use
 - » Investigate the use of parasitic nematodes as an addition to enclosed manure storage or pits
 - » The nematodes can infest and multiply inside of flies
 - » Consider parasitic wasps as an option in some situations
 - » When choosing flooring material, consider easy clean-up material
- **Monitor manure piles and other areas with high fly populations**
 - » Spot treat maggots as needed
- **Use appropriate pesticides as part of an integrated approach to control**
 - » Ensure use of the right product for the right life stage
 - » Use in conjunction with manure removal
 - » Read and follow all labels as some products may not be safe for use when animals are present, or may have minimum re-entry periods before livestock can be brought back
 - » Rotate between products from different pesticide groups to reduce the chance of populations becoming resistant to a particular active ingredient

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