

You Can Eliminate Flies!

Are you tired of having houseflies pester you every summer? Don't you hate to see these pests walk through your food, leaving disease germs and filth with every step? Flies are capable of carrying the organisms that will give your family typhoid, dysentery, and perhaps even infantile paralysis.

It's no longer necessary to put up with all this. By using two simple practices houseflies can be eliminated from every home in Oklahoma. But it will take the cooperation of every family in the state. You can start by killing those around your own house.

Briefly, controlling houseflies consists of eliminating their breeding places and spraying your buildings with DDT. It's as simple as that. The following suggestions will help you get the job done.

When to Start?

Start your housefly control now! Good results can be obtained quicker and easier if control is started early in the spring before large numbers of flies are allowed to build up. Remember that each female will lay around 500 or more eggs, and that adult flies can develop from these eggs in as little as six days! What to Do Around the Barn?



Step One: Eliminate breeding places. Flies usually breed in greatest numbers in manure. Clean all manure from the barn, chicken house, hog house, and other

outbuildings. Haul it out and spread on the fields as fertilizer. **DO NOT leave it piled around the barn lot.** Such a pile, left for only four days, was found to contain 400 fly maggots per pound of manure. If necessary, borax may be used to treat manure until it can be hauled away. Dissolve one pound of borax into 20 gallons of water, and use two to three gallons of this mixture per wheelbarrowful of manure as it is being piled.

Step Two: Spray the inside walls and ceilings of outbuildings with a 2 percent DDT spray. This strength spray is made by mixing one pound of 50 percent DDT powder into 3 gallons of water. Apply the spray until the walls are thoroughly wet, but not dripping. About one gallon will cover 1,000 square feet of wall surface.

Step Three: Spray the outdoor toilet at the same time. This is a favorite breeding place for flies.

Step Four: Outdoor toilets offer the greatest danger from fly-carried human diseases. Pour at least two gallons of the borax solution into the pit EACH DAY.

Step Five: If the 2 percent DDT spray is used, it will be necessary to spray the buildings only three or possibly four times during the fly season.

What to Do Around the House?

Step One: Spray the back porch, inside and out, with the 2 percent DDT powder spray. If the whitish residue left by this spray is objectionable, use a five percent DDT household oil spray instead.

Step Two: Use an ordinary paint brush to paint the DDT on screens and screen doors. More DDT will "stick" if applied with a brush than with a sprayer.

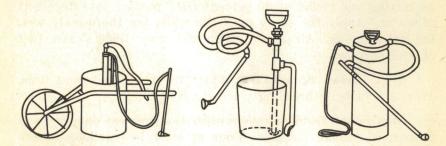


Step Three: If a good job has been done in treating the out-buildings and porches, it will not be necessary to spray with DDT inside the house. If flies continue to show up in large numbers, a breeding place has been left undisturbed. This should be found and eliminated.

Step Four: As a general precaution, patch or replace all damaged screens or screen doors.

Spray Equipment to Use?

First: It is not necessary to use a sprayer that builds up high pressure on interiors. In fact, lower pressure types often give best results. Any of the sprayers pictured below will be satisfactory.



Second: The sprayer hose should be long enough to reach the upper part of the walls and the ceiling.

Third: Be sure and keep the spray mixture well stirred as it is being applied. The liquid can be stirred directly when the open-topped barrel or bucket sprayers are used. In compressed air sprayers, turn upside down several times. This is very important and should not be neglected.

Where to get More Information

If you need more information on housefly control, see or write your County Agent or Home Demonstration Agent. They will be glad to help you.