Filth Flies

**Identification Tips:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Color</th>
<th>Blow/Bottle flies: Metallic blue, green, bronze, brassy or black in whole or part. Flesh flies have 3 black and gray longitudinal stripes on the thorax and checkering on the abdomen. House flies are mostly dull gray with 4 longitudinal stripes on thorax and velvety stripes (silver above and gold below) on face</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legs</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Size</td>
<td>Blow/Bottle flies: 3/8 to 5/8 inch long. Flesh flies: ¼ to 7/16 inch long. House flies: 1/8 to ¼ inch long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reproductive Characteristics</td>
<td>Blow/Bottle flies: females lay about 2,300 eggs (depending on species) during her lifetime and complete their life cycle in 10 or more days. Flesh Flies: females lay 325 larvae (not eggs) during their life span and complete their life cycle in 10 to 25 days. House flies: females lay eggs in clusters for a total of 75 to 150 per batch with 5 to 6 batches in her lifetime. Depending on conditions, egg to adult can take as little as 6 days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Is this insect harmful to me?**

Potentially, yes. Due to the filth for which they feed upon and breed such as human or animal excrement, sewage and rubbish, and/or the carcasses of infected animals, there exists the real concern for food contamination and the spread of various diseases. This insect can harbor over 100 pathogenic organisms including typhoid fever, cholera, diarrhea, dysentery, tuberculosis, anthrax, salmonellosis, as well parasitic worms to name a few. These organisms are transmitted via their contaminated body parts, feces, or vomit.

**Why are they in my structure?**

The key is to identify which species is infecting your home and then locate fly breeding and larval sites. It is possible that a rodent, squirrel, or other animal entered your home and died, thereby being the vector for the breeding. Also, it may be associated with garbage build-up in trash receptacles or other decaying, vegetable matter or that they may be breeding in animal excrement left in the backyard.
**Can I treat the problem myself?**

Due to the complexity of this insect and the arsenal of products that must be incorporated into the treatment, it has been our experience that most homeowners are unsuccessful at eliminating this problem. Also, homeowners often utilize products that are ineffective or apply them not in accordance with labeling and state laws. Please remember that products may be harmful to you and your family if they are misused or misapplied. Usually, once the source of the fly infestation is found and removed, the fly situation ceases on its own.

**What can Apex do for me?**

An Apex representative will spend time interviewing the homeowner in order to ascertain where the presence of the flies is located. That being said, Apex can provide you with a one-time application or a preventative maintenance plan.

**One-Time Treatment:** An interview with the homeowner is conducted along with a detailed inspection of both the inside and outside of the structure. Time is spent determining the most effective application and then a targeted application of product is made to rid your home or surroundings of these unwanted guests.

**Pest Prevention Plan:** Due to the difficulty in controlling this insect, Apex recommends monthly inspections and treatments to be performed to keep your dwelling pest free year around. Free service calls are provided whenever a pest outbreak occurs. Being that a variety of other general insect problems are covered, this is a cost effective way to maintain the integrity of your home and is the recommended treatment of Apex.

**Is the treatment safe for my children and pets?**

Since 1969, Apex has always operated with one goal in mind: “The safety of people, pets, places, and the environment is our first concern.” Therefore, we will utilize crack and crevice and spot applications, baits, monitors, habitat modification recommendations, and natural products as a method of treatment when possible. When conventional treatments are required, our licensed technicians are trained to apply the products so as to not pose a problem to people or their pets. All conventional products are EPA registered and our technician will advise you of any necessary precautions.

**What should I do now?**

Call our office at 1-800-MUG-A-BUG (1-800-684-2284) to discuss your problem with a knowledgeable customer service representative. Otherwise, sign up for a free online quote today!

Blow flies/bottle flies and flesh flies picture courtesy of Wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page)
House flies picture courtesy of the University of Florida (http://www.entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures)

http://www.apexpescontrol.net/ 1-800-MUG-A-BUG