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Fly Control



FEDERAL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
OREGON STATE COLLEGE ✓ CORVALLIS

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Flies can be controlled in the home and on the farm by sanitation and the proper use of insecticides. Races of houseflies resistant to insecticides have developed in some areas. Poor fly control in Oregon frequently results from lack of sanitation and improper use of insecticides. The first step in housefly control is sanitation.

AID SANITATION BY

- ▶ Screening windows and doors
- ▶ Keeping garbage cans covered
- ▶ Burying or burning decaying plant and animal matter
- ▶ Spreading manure once a week
- ▶ Removing moist, wet feed
- ▶ Draining away all moisture



Apply Chemicals as—

▶ SPACE SPRAYS ◀

The common aerosol bomb is a familiar type of space sprayer, but space sprays may be applied with other types of equipment which will produce a fine mist or fog. Pyrethrum, allethrin, or the organic thiocyanates are the insecticides used as space sprays. They may be applied in the home, barns, or other buildings. For complete fly control it may be necessary to combine the use of residual and space sprays with sanitation.

▶ RESIDUAL SPRAYS ◀

Residual insecticides leave a long lasting, effective deposit on the sprayed surface. Recommended insecticides in this group are methoxychlor, lindane, DDT, TDE, malathion, and chlordane. Of these, only methoxychlor, lindane, and malathion are recommended for use in dairy barns.

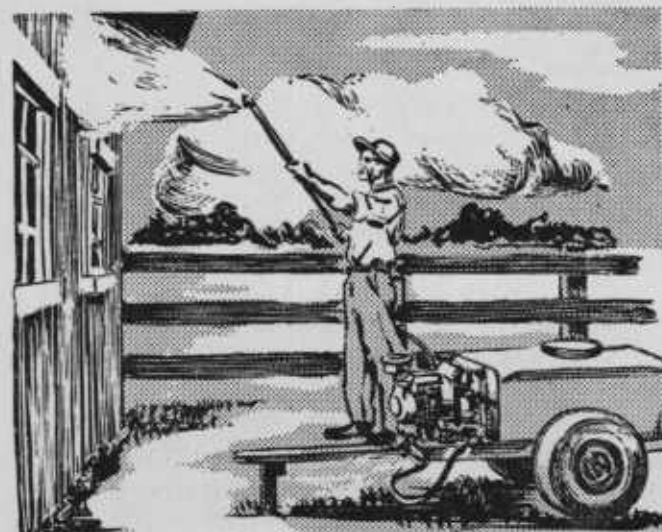
Apply residual sprays at the rate of 1 gallon per 1,000 square feet on painted surfaces and 2 gallons per 1,000 square feet on unpainted surfaces where flies alight or congregate—on walls, ceilings, window and door casings, around garbage cans, etc. Blow flies rest on grass and shrubs around buildings. Sprays prepared from wettable powders are safer to use on foliage.

Directions for Mixing Residual Sprays

Insecticide	Strength of spray wanted	Amount of insecticide	
		With 100 gals. water	With 5 gals. water
<i>Methoxychlor</i>			
<i>DDT, TDE</i>			
50% W.P.*	1.0%	16 lbs.	13 oz.
	2.5%	40 lbs.	2 lbs.
25% E.C.†	1.0%	4 gals.	1.6 pts.
	2.5%	10 gals.	2 qts.
<i>Lindane</i>			
25% W.P.	0.3%	10 lbs.	8 oz.
	0.5%	16 lbs.	14 oz.
20% E.C.	0.3%	1.5 gals.	0.6 pt.
	0.5%	2.5 gals.	1 pt.
<i>Chlordane</i>			
40% W.P.	1.0%	20 lbs.	1 lb.
	2.0%	40 lbs.	2 lbs.
40% E.C.	1.0%	2.5 gals.	1 pt.
	2.0%	5 gals.	2 pts.
<i>Malathion</i>			
25% W.P.	1.0%	32 lbs.	1.5 lbs.
50% E.C.	1.0%	2 gals.	0.8 pt.

* W.P.—Wettable powder

† E.C.—Emulsifiable concentrate



The higher concentrations are suggested if fly control has become difficult or when using hand spray equipment. When control is not as good as expected after using one material for several years, results are often improved by shifting to one of the other insecticides.

Dieldrin is another insecticide effective as a residual spray. Its use is restricted to outdoor areas. Application of dieldrin should be made only by or under the direction of pest control operators or other trained persons.

The residual type sprays are prepared from wettable powders or emulsifiable concentrates. Sprays prepared from emulsifiable concentrates are less likely to clog nozzles and are therefore preferred when using hand equipment. Sprays prepared with wettable powders are best applied with power sprayers having good agitation.

Wettable powder sprays leave a noticeable whitish deposit which is objectionable on some surfaces. The residues of the liquid concentrates are less noticeable and give best results on smooth, painted surfaces. Wettable powders give better results than emulsifiable concentrates on rough surfaces.

► BAIT SPRAYS ◀

Bait sprays have been used in some states where housefly resistance has made fly control difficult. Liquid baits are prepared by adding to malathion and water an attractant such as syrup, sugar, or unsulfured molasses. To prepare bait sprays use the following quantities of material:

Bait Spray Formulas

Material	Amount of spray desired		
	2½ gallons	6 gallons	100 gallons
<i>Malathion</i>			
50% E.C.* ..	1 cup	1 pint	2 gallons
-or-			
25% W.P.† ..	1 pound	2½ pounds	40 pounds
<i>Sugar</i>	1 cup	3 cups	20 pounds
-or-			
<i>Molasses</i>	1 cup	1 pint	2 gallons

* E.C.—Emulsifiable concentrate

† W.P.—Wettable powder

Bait sprays may be applied as suggested for residual sprays. They aid in the control of fly maggots when applied as a drench spray over the surface of manure or poultry droppings. Remove animals and poultry from buildings before treating and do not use in milk rooms or dwellings. Prepare only as much bait spray as will be used at one time.

► DRY BAITS ◀

Ready prepared dry baits containing an insecticide and sugar have been used successfully in some states. The bait is sprinkled on the floor or other places where flies congregate but where it will not contaminate animal feed, human food, or utensils. These baits should be used in strict accordance with the manufacturer's directions to avoid hazard to livestock and humans.

Follow These Precautions in Fly Control

- ▶ Do not apply insecticides to feed troughs, feed, water tanks, or milking equipment.
- ▶ Do not use residual fly sprays on animals.
- ▶ Insecticides are poisons. Read and follow the manufacturer's precautions.