

## NUISANCE FLIES



Ferment Fly

### Are Small Flies Bothering You?

Small nuisance flies, including Ferment Flies, Phorid Flies and Drain Flies (Moth Flies) often become pests to humans and animals. They can be a real nuisance, and have been implicated as carriers of various diseases and viruses, for both plants and animals. Like all flies, they have a stigma of being unclean.

These flies are often located in and around kitchens, bars, servery's, wet areas and garbage areas. They can appear at the most inopportune times, causing considerable embarrassment and general uneasiness.

### Identification and Life Cycle

The most common species of small nuisance flies belong to the insect families Drosophilidae (Ferment Flies), Phoridae (Phorid Flies) and Psychodidae (Drain/Moth Flies). These flies undergo a complete metamorphosis, a four stage development life cycle – Egg, Larva, Pupa, and Adult. Within as little as 8 days, this entire life cycle may be achieved depending on the seasonal conditions.

- **Eggs** are white and about 0.5mm in diameter.
- **Larvae** appear as small active worm-like forms, often only 3-5mm in length. They are white or greyish in colour.
- **Pupae** are enclosed within a sealed case called puparium's. These vary greatly in colour and size depending on nuisance fly species.
- **Adults** nuisance flies vary in size from 2-8mm and in colour. They are generally short lived, only lasting for about 30 days. Adult female flies lay their eggs within close proximity to available food sources. After a short period of time the deposited eggs hatch, and emerging larvae begin feeding on available food sources. Within a couple of days of feeding, fully fed larvae pupate, before emerging a few days later as adult flies.



Drain / Moth Fly

### Food and Habitat

Nuisance flies readily breed in relatively warm humid conditions. Most small nuisance flies are detected within many buildings, particularly around decaying organic matter like fruit and vegetables, potting plant soils, empty drink bottles, drains in kitchens, bars, wet areas staff rooms, toilets and shower cubicles. These flies survive on a wide variety of organic materials located within these particular areas.

### Management and Treatment

The management and treatment of small nuisance flies is best achieved through an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach that can include a combination of Biological Management, Habitat Modification and Chemical Control Management.

#### 1. Biological Management

Biological Management focuses on using biological agents to control fly populations and fly breeding areas. These include the use of biodegradable biological products dispersed into drainage areas, reducing organic material on which these small flies readily feed.

#### 2. Habitat Modification

Habitat modification involves altering conditions which are less favourable for flies to survive. This includes removal of rubbish, general house-keeping and a regular cleaning regime. In addition, products currently available eliminate the entry of nuisance flies into drainage areas. These innovative products are available on request, and are a successful non-chemical control method of nuisance flies.

#### 3. Chemical Control

Chemical Control Management targets adult flies. Although this is effective at reducing adult populations, it is recommended to implement an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach that includes the options above and disrupts breeding conditions. These treatments involve a misting application of registered and approved chemicals, in areas where airborne adults aggregate. The longevity of this treatment is shortly lived - only a day or two, and so ongoing misting application treatments may be required to control nuisance fly infestations.



Phorid Fly

## Working as a Team

Effective management and treatment of nuisance flies is only achieved through a team effort between you and your Amalgamated Pest Control technician. It is vital that positive identification of the flies is made to determine potential habitats and sources of infestation.

What can you do in conjunction with this service?

- Assist with collection of specimens to aid in identification.
- Removal of conditions suitable for breeding of nuisance flies. This might include removal of organic materials that provide breeding sites, alteration of environmental conditions (e.g. drain modifications) to reduce harbourages.
- Improve sanitation and hygiene services, with careful consideration toward regular, stringent cleaning practices.
- Discussion of additional requirements with your local Amalgamated Pest Control technician.

## Why Choose Amalgamated Pest Control?

- With over 80 years of industry experience we can provide the solutions to your pest management challenges.
- Our customers come first - We provide prompt service. While the others are arranging, we're doing.
- After-sales service is a priority. Once a treatment is completed, we stand by our work with a free service warranty backup. Should the need arise, a prompt on-call service applies for the entire warranty period.
- Our field technicians carry the latest specialised equipment designed to achieve the safest and most effective application possible. Our treatment methods have proved to be the most successful control measures available.
- We are a quality assured company to ISO9001:2000.
- We are comprehensively insured for your peace of mind.
- An Amalgamated Pest Control Management Program means more than just applying pesticides. We have field supervisors and national technical support available for expert advice on pests and pest management.
- The pesticides used are environmentally friendly and the safest available. Continual testing and research ensures that the latest developments are implemented with your interests in mind.
- We have extensive industry involvement at all levels, and active working relationships with our industry association (AEPMA), State and Federal Government bodies covering Health, WorkCover, Forestry, Primary Industries and Employment and Training.
- We can provide your complete pest management solution.

### **Our services include:**

- o All general household and commercial pests including rodents
- o Mosquito and biting Midge Management
- o Termites and other timber pests
- o Bird and fly management
- o Specialist compliance in HACCP and AQIS systems

References:  
[www.brisbaneinsects.com](http://www.brisbaneinsects.com)  
[www.biosurvey.ou.edu](http://www.biosurvey.ou.edu)  
[www.ento.psu.edu](http://www.ento.psu.edu)

Local Branch:



[www.amalpest.com.au](http://www.amalpest.com.au)  
**Phone 13 19 61**

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