

THE FLY SEASON IS HERE

Charles Pitts Professor Of Entomology

The fly season is here and we are experiencing isolated problems throughout Pennsylvania with high house fly populations. I have checked with my colleagues in surrounding states and they are also experiencing problems with house flies. Each poultry producer should be aware of the importance of controlling house flies in their facilities in order to have good sanitation in the egg processing area of the high rise houses and to be a good neighbor to his non-poultry producing neighbors.

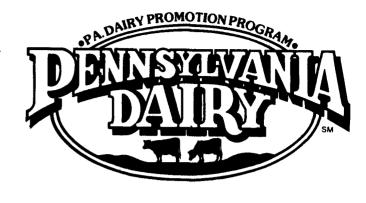
This relationship to the community is very important to the poultry industry and must be taken seriously.

Practically all producers are using thermal foggers or a mist blower as a tool to control house flies. These approaches use multiple applications and usually the same chemical is used for each treatment.

This use of the same chemical is beginning to show problems in not giving the same control that was given during treatments last year. I have checked with neighboring states and they are experiencing the same problem. We will be collecting flies in different regions of Pennsylvania and testing them for resistance to the commonly used insecticides for house fly control. These data will not be available until late in the fly season, so, in the meantime, poultry producers should alternate the chemicals used for house fly control. This will take some of the selection pressure off the house fly populations and extend the life of current- tions for the

ly used chemicals. Remember that in conducting a fly pest management program, one must have good manure management. Be sure and walk the pits daily to check for leaky waterers, because if a leaky waterer is left it can produce ideal growing conditions for the house fly and get you behind in controlling your house fly populations.

If you need help in solving your fly problem, contact your local extension office or the Department of Entomology at Penn State, (814-863-7789).



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