

Fruit Flies – (*Drosophila spp*)



Life History

- Egg** 15-25 per day. White with extension at one end allowing it to breathe in liquid.
- Larva** Breathing tubes on last abdominal segment. Develops in fermenting, rotting vegetation.
- Pupa** Soil or dry media, has pair of respiratory extensions.
- Adult** 7-30 days, adult lives 2-9 weeks. Pest of vinegar, wine and pickle production plants, breweries, bars and canning factories. One species breeds in curd left in milk bottles and pupae attach themselves to bottles and are difficult to remove.

Common in breweries, places where fruit and vegetables are stored, pickle and vinegar manufacturing etc. These small flies congregate in places where fermentation is taking place. They have a slow, ponderous hovering sort of flight with the abdomen hanging downward. They are also common in restaurants and public houses where they are attracted to spillages under beer engines, empty bottles and vegetable stores. The breeding site of the larvae consists of decomposing vegetable matter.

Drosophila infestations result from poor hygiene and breeding sites must be located. Breeding sites can then be cleaned and treated with insecticides.

