Descriptions and Pictures of Flies
Fly Parasites will attack

**STABLE FLIES**

USDA Entomologist, David Taylor says stable flies cost dairies $360 million annually plus $358 million more in cow-calf growth costs. These estimates are based on reduction in milk production and reduction in weight gains of calves.

The stable fly feeds mostly on the legs and feet with painful bites. The cows will stomp feet, swish tails and bunch together to fight off flies. If they have the chance they will wade in a pond. All this behavior is counterproductive for good milk yield. Stable flies breed in organic debris, feed areas, manure and urine soaked bedding.

**THE HOUSE FLY**

The house fly tends to go for the face, head and eyes which can cause pink eye and spread disease. Pink eye affects young calves in summer/fall. Limiting the spread of bacteria from animal to animal can be accomplished by controlling house fly numbers on cows. House flies breed in manure piles, wet bedding and hay or silage.

**FACE FLY**

Like the house fly but smaller, it is a non-biting fly. Feeds on the secretions of the cows eyes, clustering around the eyes, mouth and muzzle spreading pink eye. Face flies breed in fresh manure, barn areas and pastures.

**HORN FLY**

Horn flies look like a house fly or stable fly but smaller. Horn flies have a piercing mouth and bite intermittingly all day. It bits and congregates on the back, shoulders, and sides of cows in large groups. A major pest for inside cattle and grazers – very persistent biters – tends to breed in fresh manure.

Dairy fly parasites can effectively seek out and destroy the larva of all of the above species of flies.