

Cluster Fly

Pollenia rudis

Those annoying flies that resemble house flies that have invaded your house are only looking for a place to spend the winter, often within walls, attics, storage rooms and basements of houses. The fly maggots are parasites of earthworms, and the adults appear during late autumn, winter and early spring at windows. Since they generally crawl through small openings, screens are of no use in preventing entry. Isolated houses in the country are especially prone to invasion, since they offer the only warm shelter for miles around.

Control

- Around the home, use caulk to seal openings to the outside.
- Treat building exteriors, especially the sunny side of the house, with a synthetic pyrethroid during the first two weeks of August.
- Adults indoors can be vacuumed up or killed with an aerosol spray.



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Additional Resources

Cluster Fly

- UW-Extension Publication A2090, *Cluster Flies in the Home*, at <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Cluster-Flies-in-the-Home-P301.aspx>

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