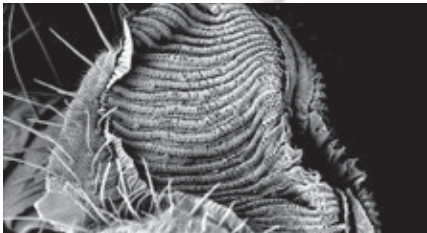




## THE DIRTY TRUTH ABOUT LARGE FLIES

A common house fly is often considered a nuisance, but to anyone with a kitchen or food processing area, a fly represents a serious food safety concern. Flies contaminate food with their filth, and when combined with lapses in time and the right temperature, this can contribute to the spread of disease.

Flies lay their eggs in any warm, moist, decaying organic material on which their larvae can feed when they hatch. Flies have been shown to carry more than 100 pathogens<sup>1</sup> that cause human diseases, including *Salmonella* and *E. coli*, and have a keen sense of smell that attracts them to a variety of foods. They can easily transfer pathogens to food and food handling surfaces, on their bodies and with their sponging mouthparts.



Flies' sponging mouthparts can easily contaminate food and food handling surfaces



Flies' sticky feet are good at collecting and spreading bacteria

## PROTECTING YOUR FACILITY FROM THE OUTSIDE-IN

Ecolab provides a comprehensive large fly program featuring industry-leading technology and expert service to help reduce pressure on the exterior of your facility and eliminate flies on the interior of your facility.

### Minimize Large Fly Entry Opportunities

Ecolab's Large Fly program starts with inspections and recommendations on both the exterior and interior of your facility to help you minimize the opportunities for flies to enter your facility.

### Reduce Large Fly Pressure

On the exterior of your facility, treatments in key areas help reduce fly pressure. The patented STEALTH® Fly Station attracts and discreetly eliminates congregating flies on the exterior of your facility.

### Eliminate Large Fly Activity

Targeted interior treatments and STEALTH® FLY Lights help quickly eliminate large flies that do enter.

<sup>1</sup>White, G.B. 2006. Filth Flies, Significance, Surveillance and Control in Contingency Operations. Armed Forces Pest Management Board. Technical Guide No. 30. Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C. 54 pp.

## DID YOU KNOW...

- Flies found at your facility may be breeding at locations up to one mile away
- Flies actively enter open doors and windows, especially if there is food or garbage odor near the opening
- Adult filth flies cannot eat solid food. They regurgitate stomach content including their last meal, bacteria, enzymes and stomach acid to help dissolve solids. They then mop up these liquids with their sponging mouthparts
- Fly populations generally increase in warm months. Warm weather causes rapid decomposition of vegetation and other organic matter, providing ample food for flies and their larvae
- Flies have tiny claws on the tips of their feet. Between these claws are hairy adhesive pads called pulvilli. It's these claws and pulvilli that allow the fly to attach to almost any smooth surface, and even walk upside-down across a smooth ceiling
- The lifecycle of a fly is eight to 12 days. In this time, however, a female fly can lay as many as 500 eggs



## WHAT YOU CAN DO:

The following recommendations will help reduce conditions that attract and promote large fly activity within your facility.

### Maintain Good Sanitation Practices on the Exterior

- Keep garbage as far away from entry doors as possible
- Keep all garbage and dumpster lids closed and well sealed
- Remove spilled food materials and garbage from the ground and surrounding areas. If there is an exterior dining area, make sure that it is being properly maintained
- Remove standing water from around the facility
- Remove weeds, tall grass and other excessive vegetation
- Remove clutter and items stored on the ground near the structure

### Eliminate Entry Points

- Keep windows and doors closed as much as possible; equip windows with properly fitting screen and doors with door sweeps and self-closing mechanisms
- Make sure any exterior entry points for utility wires and plumbing are properly sealed and all vents securely screened
- Negative air pressures outside of entry ways can actually pull flying insects into the facility. In many cases, making adjustments to the HVAC system can alleviate this problem

### Maintaining Good Sanitation Practices on the Interior

- Eliminate standing water and accumulated condensation
- Limit interior access, where possible, by keeping doors to back areas closed
- Clean food debris thoroughly and regularly

## Learn More Today

Find out how Ecolab can help protect your brand from large flies. Read full case studies and view our partnership video, *Teaming Up Against Flies* at [ecolab.com/largefly](http://ecolab.com/largefly)

