

## FLY CONTROL: ARE WE REALLY GOING ON?

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**Abstract** Flies control is still a complex problem in many systems but particularly in animal husbandry. An unstructured approach remains towards them in the various affected activities, which still too often are activated only in the face of an emergency. Even in modern farms, IPM for flies is not considered and often tackled clumsily and only when is too late to prevent.

The inspection experience of recent years, addressed to both breeders and IPM operators, has mainly shown these gaps:

Lack of knowledge of the life cycle of flies,

- Lack of knowledge on relationship between temperature and speed of biological cycle,
- Lack of knowledge of the vector role of flies for many infections and parasites,
- Failure to recognize the different larval stages and pupae in order to organize the control,
- Lack of knowledge about critical role of positions in larvicidal treatments,
- Do not consider the usefulness of physical-mechanical actions,
- Very scarce knowledge of available and legal molecules,
- Consider biological control as a convenience and not an actual management strategy,

The authors emphasize that the lack of efficacy in control derives from:

- poor training on flies IPM for both farmers and technicians,
- the national veterinary service, in charge of controls, do not have any training and merely monitor the use of authorized products;
- flies problems is mostly seen as a secondary aspect that need investments only in emergency situations.
- flies are still too often perceived as a simple disturbance to operators and animals rather than a factor that can cause production losses. At last, it should be noted that in the frame of the "One Health" approach, the prevention is a priority to ensure control strategies of pests and their important role in transmission of pathogens.

**Key words** Flies, biosecurity, IPM, technical gaps