

## Put a Stop to Fruit/Drain Flies!

### Check for these Prime Fruit Fly Breeding Sites

- **Stored fruits and vegetables.** Check for rotten onions, potatoes, tomatoes, etc in bins or bags.
- **Fruit and vegetable scraps.** Look under appliances and counters.
- **Empty Bottles.** Fruit flies can breed in the residue of “empty” returnable or discarded wine, beer, milk, ketchup, and other bottles.
- **Beer or wine dispenser.** Fermenting residues in a drain or from spills are prime breeding sites.
- **Garbage cans.** Food scraps and sticky residues should be removed by periodic washing.
- **Cleaning water runoff.** Mopping and cleaning water can carry food “goo” under walls and into cracks in broken tile and damaged grout.
- **Utility Sink.** An incrustation of food can build up on a sink used as a common drain for dishwashers, mop basins, etc.
- **Traps and drains.** Check for leaking grease traps and broken or stagnant floor drains.
- **Dishcloths and mops.** Old forgotten dish cloths and mops can sour and ferment and breed flies.
- **Food carts.** Food scraps and sticky residues should be removed by aggressive washing.

Fruit flies are attracted to ripe or rotting fruits and vegetables, vinegar, cider, beer, and any yeast resulting from fermentation. It takes very little food to breed fruit flies. Hundreds can breed in the residue inside an “empty” beer bottle; thousands in a dirty garbage can.

Insecticide treatment is only a brief measure in controlling fruit flies. The treatment only kills the adults that are active. Unless the source of the problem, the breeding site, is eliminated, more and more flies will emerge each day.

Following this checklist should help you, and your staff, get a good grip on this annoying pest.