



## Black Dump Fly

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### ***Hydrotaea aenescens* Wiedemann**

#### **Origin**

First collected by Grimshaw on Lanai, December 1893,  
now found on all the major Hawaiian islands.

#### **Public health concern**

Can be a nuisance to the public in large numbers.

#### **Hosts**

Larva feeds primarily on chicken and swine manure,  
dead animals, and rotting meat.

#### **Poultry concern**

Larvae of the black dump fly are considered to be ben-  
eficial because they prey on house fly larvae.

#### **Description**

Medium size, glossy black fly  $\frac{3}{16}$ – $\frac{3}{8}$  inches long.  
Adults prefer dark locations and stay close to the ground.

#### **Life cycle**

Growth stages: egg, larva, pupa, adult.  
From egg to adult takes approximately 14 days.  
Females lay about 170 eggs over a 7–10 day period.

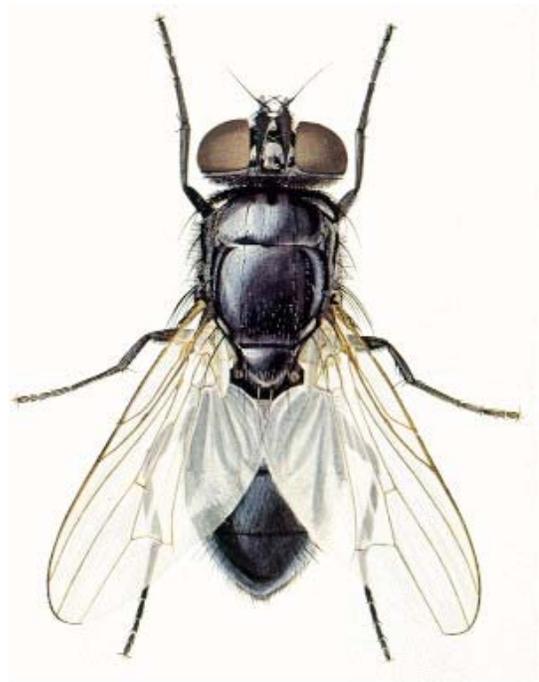
#### **Control**

Poultry operations need to keep good manure manage-  
ment records if using the black dump fly as a biologi-  
cal control for house flies.

When manure is removed, keep a residue of old, dry  
manure to help absorb fresh droppings and preserve  
fly predators.

Surface-spray with an insecticide when adult flies are  
overabundant.

Consult your pesticide supplier for recommended prod-  
ucts, and always follow label directions.



#### **References**

- Hardy, D. Elmo. 1960. Insects of Hawaii, v. 14 Diptera: Cyclorhapha IV. Univ. Hawaii Press, Honolulu. pp. 54–56.
- Hogsette, J. A., and R. D. Jacobs. The black dump fly: a larval pred-  
ator of house flies. Univ. Florida Cooperative Extension. Photo  
above downloaded May, 2003 from <[http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/  
BODY\\_PS021](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/BODY_PS021)>.