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EC1556 Fly and Mosquito Control in Towns and Cities

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COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK
IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

Aug.
1949

U. of N. Agr. College & U. S. Dept. of Agr. Cooperating
H. G. Gould, Associate Director, Lincoln

FLY AND MOSQUITO CONTROL IN TOWNS AND CITIES

Note: Little or no insecticide is necessary with excellent sanitation (no breeding sites); any insecticide gives poor results of short duration with poor sanitation (abundant breeding sites).

FLIES

I Control with Sanitation.

- A. Use tightly covered garbage cans.
- B. Remove garbage twice weekly.
- C. Where flies breed on manure or other decaying vegetation, spread it in a thin layer to hasten drying.
- D. Do not permit manure to accumulate for more than one week.

II Control with Insecticides.

- A. Effective methods.
 1. A 2% DDT residual spray on areas where flies collect in large numbers. (Wettable powder is preferable to emulsion or solution).
- B. Ineffective methods with DDT or other chlorinated hydrocarbons.
 1. Disadvantages of airplane spraying or dusting and fogging with ground machines over or within towns and cities:
 - a. Kills the active stages, but has no effect on the developing stages.
 - b. Has no residual effect.
 - c. Exposes the entire human population to a poison which cannot be called safe or harmless.
 - d. It covers non-infested areas, therefore wasting material.
 - e. Causes injury to certain plants and contaminates garden food.

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MOSQUITOES

Note: Mosquitoes breed abundantly in slow-moving or stagnant water which contains organic material, debris, and vegetation.

I Control with Sanitation

- A. Drain useless ponds.
- B. Clean ditches and slow-moving natural water ways to increase flow.
- C. Check cisterns or old wells for mosquito breeding.

II Control with Insecticides.

A. Effective methods.

1. A 2% DDT residual spray on barns, sheds, bridges, garages, etc.
2. A 2% DDT residual spray on low shrubs, weeds and lower branches of trees.
3. Use oil or DDT spray at 1/5 pound per acre for breeding sites that cannot be drained.
4. A 1/4% DDT spray on animals; such as cows, horses, and dogs to kill mosquitoes feeding on them.

B. Ineffective methods.

1. Disadvantages of airplane application or fogging.
 - a. Kills adult only.
 - b. Offers only temporary relief.
 - c. Possible injury to wild life by too large an application of DDT.