Control of Flies Affecting Livestock

By

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HORNFLIES



Hornflies are severe pests of cattle and if not controlled may cost the livestock producer 50 pounds or more of beef per animal per year. The flies breed only in fresh manure during rainy weather. Adults remain on animals.

Control: Beef cattle may be sprayed with .5 percent toxaphene or .5 percent DDT solutions. Dips containing .5 percent DDT may be used. Dairy cattle should be treated with sprays or washes containing .5 percent methoxychlor. Applications are usually effective for two to four weeks. In most areas two or three treatments in the spring and one in the fall is sufficient.

STABLE FLIES

Stable flies are blood-sucking flies which irritate animals kept in barns or pens. Loss of flesh and reduction of milk flow may be severe. The flies breed largely in decaying straw and litter around barns.

Control: None of the insecticides offer adequate control of stable flies. Eliminate decaying straw, hay, and other litter around barns and pens. Dry barns and pens aid materially in reducing stable fly population. Barns should be sprayed as often as necessary during warm weather as for housefly control.



HORSE FLIES

Horse flies do not infest cattle in large numbers but they inflict a severe bite and the wounds left may become infested with screw worms.

Control: There is no practical insecticidal control of horse flies. The only solution is to keep the animals out of low bottoms during June and July.

HOUSEFLIES

Houseflies do not bite but cause considerable annoyance when present in large numbers. They also spread disease organisms and the eggs of internal parasites.

Control: The elimination of breeding places is necessary for fly control. Manure should not be allowed to collect in piles without drying. Any organic matter, such as hay, straw or manure, which remains wet for any length of time, is a potential breeding place.

Spray the barn with a mixture of two and one-half percent DDT and two percent chlordane prepared from an emulsion concentrate. Washing of the walls occasionally before spraying is of value.

SPRAY MIXING INSTRUCTIONS AND PRECAUTIONS

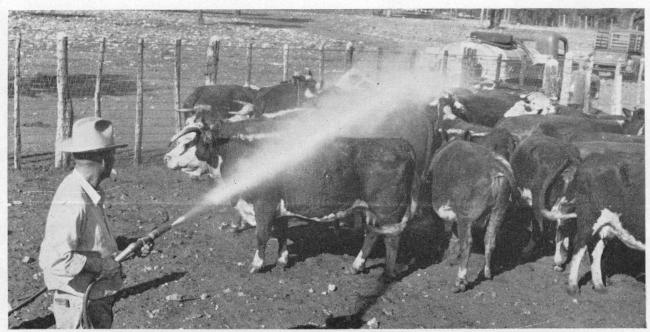
Use eight pounds of 50 percent wettable DDT or methoxychlor for 100 gallons of .5 percent spray.

Use two tablespoons of 50 percent wettable DDT or methoxychlor for one gallon of .5 percent spray.

Use 10 pounds of 40 percent wettable toxaphene for 100 gallons of .5 percent spray.

Use two tablespoons of 40 percent wettable toxaphene for one gallon of .5 percent spray.

If emulsions are used, follow the recommendations of the manufacturer closely. The emulsions are more toxic and extreme care should be exercised in their use. Do not use toxaphene on very young calves.



A crowding pen is adequate when spraying for flies.

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