

Fly Prevention and Control Strategies for Equine Fly Bite Hypersensitivity

Fly Prevention

Utilization of predatory wasps (Fly Predators) is an eco-friendly and effective method for preventing large fly populations. Predatory wasps (which have no effect on humans or animals) control fly populations by parasitizing fly larvae and preventing the development of adult flies. When started in the spring and used monthly, this method will reduce or eliminate the need for other control measures.

Fecal Management

Clean feces from stalls daily. Keep fecal pile away from barn and downwind if possible.

Topical Fly Repellent

Many options are available for this purpose. Best products are UV light stabilized to stay effective outdoors. Be sure to note duration of action on the product you choose and apply appropriately. Spray or wipe-on permethrin based products are often used. Avoid applying any product where it may drip into eyes when the horse is sweaty.

Cover Equine

Apply fly face mask and body cover sheets to decrease fly contact with skin. Both items can be treated with fly repellent before placement on horse. Affected horses should have screened stalls.

Area Repellants

In-stall timed fly spray devices can be quite effective at decreasing flies in stalls of affected horses. Consider treating problem areas in the facility with fly fogger, spray or powder.

Provide the most protection (combination of sprays, covers, screened and sprayed stalls) at dusk and dawn as fly feeding times are crepuscular (dusk and dawn).

NOTE: There are many products available for all of these functions. It is important to read safety information on any product before you apply it to your horse or area in your barn. Use caution to limit human exposure to chemicals or toxic applications to your horse or horses feed or water.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns.