



Cluster Flies



Introduction

Cluster flies are common in the UK and are so-called as they hibernate in large numbers or clusters in buildings. Swarming flies have a similar hibernating nature and these can form mixed populations of flies inside buildings.

Cluster Fly Problems

Due to weather conditions in our country, there are only usually two generations of cluster fly each year, but up to four generations in hot weather is possible. In summer and early autumn cluster flies are found in fields, but as the weather becomes cooler they will find shelter in nooks and crannies in houses and other buildings. They can often be found in large numbers (several thousand) in roof spaces. Often they will return to the same building year after year. Large numbers of cluster flies hibernating together can produce a sickly smell and if warm enough, will fly around living areas where they are attracted to light. While this may cause a nuisance, cluster flies do not pose any risk to human health and their presence does not reflect poor hygiene.

Prevention and Control

Prevent access into buildings by blocking access into cavity walls e.g. replace missing bricks and seal around windows and doors

Control

If you find that you have Cluster Flies in your home contact the Environmental Health Department on 01442 228543/ 228455 or email pestcontrol@dacorum.gov.uk

