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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Planning for Flies in 2019

As I type this on Monday we are coming off of another weekend that brought rain. It did not rain everywhere all weekend, but I think everyone had some rain on Friday, Saturday or Sunday. Some may have seen rain all 3 days.

Until this morning I had not seen any significant numbers of flies on livestock this year. This morning I found 2 newborns with their mothers. The four of them were laying under the same tree when I found them. Both calves had a bunch of flies on them. By far the most I have seen so far this year.

Flies can aggravate me quick, just one fly is a pest. Can you imagine 200 or more on you at the same time? Add to that thought with the fact that these are biting flies. For a mature cow 200 flies is nearly none. Two hundred is considered good fly control.

There are several kinds of flies. Some are horn flies, face flies, stable flies, deer flies, house flies, and more. Knowing what kind of flies you are trying to control is important because certain insecticides are more effective on some species of flies compared to others.

It is important to remember to rotate what you use from one year to the next to reduce resistance. This holds true regardless if you are using a pour-on, injectable, oral or ear tags. The same chemistry is the same chemistry. You need to switch up what you use from year to year. I recently saw that one of the ear tag companies have tags with three different insecticides. This gives you the opportunity to use their tags and a 3 year rotation. If you use ear tags this is a good marketing idea and a good management idea for producers.

Another product that I did not mention earlier was the larvicide. This product is in feed or mineral and can prevent the reproduction of the flies in manure. The product breaks the cycle. Ask your local veterinarian or feed supplier for more information. For the most part this may be an additional 3 or 4 dollars per bag of mineral.

Other ideas that will at least take away some of the stress on livestock by flies can include the use of shelters and fans. Barn fans will help keep some flies at bay. Also a three sided building can offer enough darkness that seem to lower fly activity.

Flies are a nuisance to people and livestock. Flies also cause an economic impact. When these flies are biting they are taking a blood meal. The blood meal reduces rate of gain, but it is also a path for the spread of diseases within the herd.

When treating animals for flies you may also want to consider other parasites that can cost you money in the form of pounds of gain if left uncontrolled. Ticks can carry diseases, too. Several of the



products used to control flies will help with tick control, too. Do not forget to take care of the worms, too. Many people have turned out. While most treat for worms just prior to turnout, this needs to be more than just once a year. Again, do not use the same mode of action or chemistry year after year. As always consult your veterinarian for more information and what might be best for your herd.

### **SOACDF Meetings Scheduled**

The informational meetings for the 2019-2020 projects through the Southern Ohio Agricultural and Community Development Foundation will be in July. Make plans to attend one of these meetings if you plan to apply for grants this coming year.

The local meetings will be on July 2 in the evening at the Cherry Fork Gym and on Friday, July 5 at the Southern Hills Career and Technical Center administration building at 10:30 a.m. If you have questions about the meetings, or the programs, you can call the Foundation at 937-393-2700 or check out the website. The web address is <http://soacdf.net>

### **Dates to Remember**

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| June 10   | Pesticide Testing at the Old Y Restaurant at noon. Call 800-282-1955 or online go to <a href="http://pested.osu.edu">http://pested.osu.edu</a> |
| July 7-13 | Adams County Fair  |