Post-doc position available to do conservation research on a parasite of Darwin’s Finches.
The muscid fly Philornis downsi attacks nestling birds and has invaded the Galapagos Islands, where it is causing mortality of endemic birds including Darwin’s finches. We are conducting research on parasitoids of this fly from its native range, which includes mainland Ecuador. This research involves sampling, rearing and life-history studies and host-and habitat-specificity experiments. The studies will be conducted primarily in mainland Ecuador but with potential components in Galapagos and the University of Minnesota. The successful applicant will work with a team of researchers focusing on conservation of Darwin’s finches through management of P. downsi. Qualifications for this position include: a PhD or M.S. in biology, entomology or a related field of study, the ability to speak Spanish and English, experience with insect behavior experiments and experience with parasite/parasitoid life cycles. The position is available as early as July 1, 2022 and it has a duration of 2 years. Applications will be reviewed beginning immediately until a suitable candidate can be found. Please email C.V., statement of interests, and names and email addresses of 3 references to: George E Heimpel, Dept. of Entomology, University of Minnesota, heimp001@umn.edu. As an institution committed to demonstrating excellence through diversity, the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences is committed to hiring a diverse faculty and staff, and actively encourages candidates from historically underrepresented groups to apply.