

Beneficial Species Profile

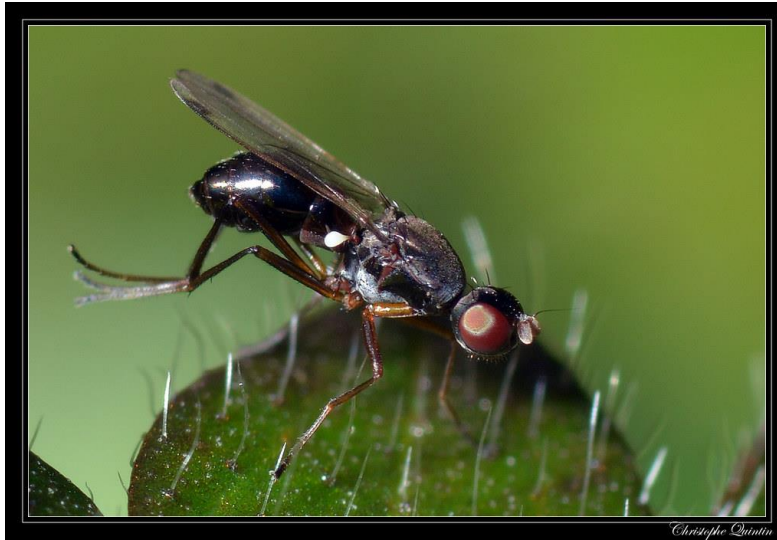


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Common Name: Black Scavenger Flies

Scientific Name: *Sepsis sp.*

Order and Family: Diptera ; Sepsidae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg		
Larva/Nymph		
Adult	~5mm	small shiny black flies sometimes with a reddish tint spherical head, base of abdomen narrowed dark spot at the wing tip along front margin
Pupa (if applicable)		

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.):

Sponging

Host/s:

Decaying matter and feces, including carrion. Can be mistaken for ants and are abundant during advanced stages of decay.

Description of Benefits (predator, parasitoid, pollinator, etc.):

Due to their abundance and attraction to decaying carrion, can be used in forensic science in relevance to crime scene investigations.

References:

Byrd, J. H., & Tomberlin, J. K. (2020). Forensic entomology: The utility of arthropods in legal investigations. Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group. pg 34