

Pest Profile



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Common Name: Blue blowfly, Blue bottle fly

Scientific Name: *Calliphora vicina* (Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830)

Order and Family: Diptera; Calliphoridae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Elongated and tapered at one end- Pale-gray to light yellow in color
Larva/Nymph	10-14mm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- A cream to white colored maggot- Smooth, segmented body with a pointed head- Legless and eyeless
Adult	12-18mm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Dull grey head and thorax- Shiny blue abdomen with black markings- Red eyes with orange beneath- Transparent wings- Yellow-orange jowls with black hair
Pupa (if applicable)	9-10mm long; 3-4mm wide	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Encased in a tough, light brown or black pupal case

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Larvae have chewing mouthparts while adults have sponging mouthparts

Host plant/s: Nectar, carrion, wool/hair/fur, garbage, decaying matter, wounds.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Blowflies seldom cause major problems but can become quite annoying because of their persistent buzzing. However, there are some major health concerns as blowflies have the ability to be vectors of disease. Adult females will deposit their eggs in wounds where

the larvae will feed on the decaying flesh and matted hair. Larval feeding may cause the wounds to become infected and blood poisoning and hair loss can occur. Occasionally, the larvae may also attack healthy tissue.

References:

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