

## Pest Profile



**Photo credits:** Left -*Glossinia pallidipes* – <https://www.flickr.com/photos/davidbygott/4318099970>  
 Right – *Glossinia species* - IAEA - <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Tsetse-BKF-2.jpg>

**Common Name:** Tsetse fly

**Scientific Name:** *Glossinia pallidipes* and other species (25-34 species in genus)

**Order and Family:** Diptera: Glossinidae

**Size and Appearance:**

	Length (mm)	Appearance
<b>Egg N/A</b>	<b>Egg hatches and grows until 3<sup>rd</sup> instar in utero.</b>	<b>Tsetses are viviparous, bearing a single 3<sup>rd</sup> instar larva at a time every 1-2 weeks.</b>
<b>Larva/Nymph</b>	<b>5-10 mm  3<sup>rd</sup> instar larvae only</b>	<b>Cream to white maggot with black capsule. Immediately pupates, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> instars and metamorphosis in puparium.</b>
<b>Adult</b>	<b>5 -15 mm</b>	<b>Forward pointing proboscis jutting from under head, resembles gun turret; variable brown patterns, flattened oval abdomen, wings longer than abdomen fold completely over each other, “cleaver shaped” discal wing cell; red abdomen after feeding.</b>
<b>Pupa (if applicable)</b>	<b>5-10 mm</b>	<b>Puparium is brown, in soil</b>

**Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.):** Piercing-sucking adults of both sexes are ectoparasites of warm-blooded animals and blood drinkers. Females require 7-10 blood meals per larva and take meals equal to their body weight.

**Host/s:** Warm blooded vertebrates

**Description of Medical Importance (adults):** Female tsetse flies feed on blood. Several *Glossinia* species are vectors for Trypanosome protozoans and transmit sleeping sickness (Trypanosomiasis) in humans,

Nagana in cattle, horses, camels and other livestock and mammals, and Surra in pigs and other mammals.

Tsetse flies are endemic to sub-Saharan and tropical Africa.

**References:**

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**Ron Hirzel**  
**Glossinia/Tsetse fly**