

INTRODUCTION

Initially this study commenced as 'the control of flies in livestock buildings,' but, having observed the conditions, it was decided that the muscid concerned (Musca domestica) was not present in significant numbers to warrant any investigation of further specific control methods.

Also present at that time, and with a very similar life history to that of Musca domestica, was a biting fly, commonly known as the 'stable fly' and occasionally as the 'biting house fly,' Stomoxys calcitrans (HEARLE, 1938), which, due to its biting properties, was considered to be a nuisance at the University field station. Thus attention was diverted to the control of this pest, although it was not until later that the full significance of the effect of Stomoxys upon milk and livestock production was to be realised.