

# Rentokil Steritech

The Experts in Pest Control

## Tips for the prevention of small flies

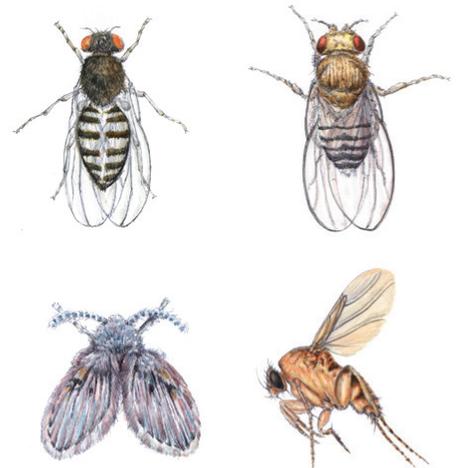
The presence of small flies can signal a sanitation issue that needs attention – and unfortunately, may raise the eyebrows of your customers and guests. These pests will exploit developing sanitation issues quickly, and can literally become a problem overnight. To avoid small flies in your establishment, institute a thorough cleaning and sanitation program and follow these tips.

### Where you might see them

- These flies can breed and enter from outside, but most often breed inside in very localized areas.
- Many of these flies are attracted to sweet, fermenting odors. Look for them around soda stations and beer taps, or in areas where produce is stored.
- Since these pests prefer to breed in decaying organic matter, areas that are hosed or sprayed at night may be problem areas. Hosing and spraying can force organic material under edges, behind equipment, and into cracks and crevices. This material becomes a prime attractant and breeding ground for small flies.
- Any areas where organic matter builds up can become attractive to small flies: gaps in grout and the floor-wall juncture, food debris behind legs of equipment, drains, trash receptacles, and in “temporary” repair work that has not been corrected.
- Any areas where plumbing is found can potentially be small fly activity areas, especially if leaks are present.

### Tips for prevention

- Eliminate breeding sites in drains. Set up a regular cleaning schedule for drains, and target those that serve equipment, such as soda machines, for weekly cleaning. Wear appropriate protective equipment and use a splatter guard to avoid spreading foodborne pathogens.
- Thoroughly clean all equipment, server stations, tables and floors in the kitchen and bar area daily.
- Clean drip trays of soda machines daily to eliminate build up attractive to fruit flies.
- Make sure that all tiles are in place and that grout is intact. Missing tiles or worn grout can “catch” organic debris and become breeding sites for small flies.
- Hang mops upside down after use to drain and dry them properly.
- Routinely clean under cooking equipment and prep lines to remove debris. Use flashlight to confirm debris is removed.
- Eliminate standing water using mops or floor drying fans.
- Cull damaged and rotting product daily, particularly produce. Use the First In, First Out (FIFO) method of rotation to ensure that oldest product is used first.
- Use Rentokil Steritech’s CleanBlitz® Tablets or CleanBlitz Foam for mopping and spot cleaning to remove organic debris.



### Identification and biology

- The group of pests referred to as “small flies” encompasses several different species. All are small but still visible to the naked eye. Adult small flies can range in size from  $\frac{1}{13}$  -  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch (2 - 4 mm).
- Each of these species prefers breeding in moist, decaying organic matter.
- Fruit fly species can complete a life cycle in 7 - 20 days.

For a FREE consultation and inspection contact  
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