



QUICK GUIDE TO FLY CONTROL METHODS

Flies can bite away at cattle performance and profits. Horn flies alone cost the U.S. cattle industry an estimated \$1 billion annually.¹ There's no silver bullet to fully eradicate flies, however, there are many different ways to control them. Explore fly control methods below:

Fly control method	Uses	How it works	Application upkeep and considerations
Feed-through	Mineral formulas with Altosid® Insect Growth Regulator (IGR) are ideal for range cattle because they target horn flies and do not harm other beneficial species like the dung beetle. Feed formulas with ClariFly® Larvicide are designed for confined cattle because they cover a variety of fly species.	As cattle consume product with IGR or Larvicide, those products pass through the animal and into manure, where flies lay their eggs. The IGR/Larvicide prevents pupae from developing into biting adult flies.	For best results, feed 30 days before the last frost of spring through 30 days after the first frost in the fall.
Insecticide-impregnated ear tags	Ideal for implementation if cattle already need to be processed.	Tags release small amounts of insecticide over time to control flies.	Tags must be replaced when insecticide is depleted, usually 2–4 months after application. Tags should be removed at the end of fly season.
Pour-ons and on-animal sprays	Great option for immediate fly relief.	Liquid substance usually applied directly on an animal's backline. Chemical is absorbed and circulates through the animal's system.	Controls flies for up to 30 days before requiring another application.
Dust bags, backrubs and oilers	Most effective in a forced-use situation.	Powder or liquid substance applied with hand shakers or self-treatment dust bags.	Requires frequent device checks to keep insecticide stocked.
Baits	Used to control house flies that congregate around feedlots and livestock barns.	Baits are made with a sweet substance to attract flies and a small amount of insecticide to kill flies.	Scatter bait where fly populations are most prevalent. Monitor and replace as needed.
Area and residual sprays	Used to control flies in confined settings.	Area sprays are applied on premises in and around livestock. Residual sprays are applied directly to walls, ceilings and other popular fly locations. Both types deter flies from returning to the sprayed area.	Area sprays offer rapid but short-term fly control without much residual control. Residual sprays can provide control for several weeks.

WHY PURINA® WIND AND RAIN® FLY CONTROL MINERAL WITH ALTOSID® IGR?

- ✓ **It's effective.** Cattle treated with Altosid® IGR showed a **15.8% increase** in average daily weight gain versus cattle left untreated.²
- ✓ **Minimal labor.** Fly control mineral is available in tub or loose form, so you can feed mineral as usual.
- ✓ **Low stress.** No animal handling or behavior changes required.
- ✓ **No insect resistance to Altosid® IGR.** Other fly control solutions containing organophosphates and pyrethroids are known to have horn fly resistance.
- ✓ **Dung beetle approved.** Dung beetles are not affected by Altosid® IGR.



Flip to the back for more fly control considerations.



FEED GREATNESS®

¹ Olafson, P.U. 2013. Molecular characterization and immunolocalization of the olfactory co-receptor Orco from two blood-feeding muscid flies, the stable fly and the horn fly. Insect Molecular Biology 22, 131-142. Retrieved from DOI reference:10.1111/imb.12009.

² Altosid® IGR Effectively Controls Horn Fly Populations, Promotes Greater Weight Gain in Stocker Cattle Study. Conducted by Central Life Sciences. Summer 2011. Study located in northeast Oklahoma. Retrieved from <https://www.altosidgr.com/how-it-works>



DEVELOP A MULTI-PRONGED FLY CONTROL APPROACH

Every fly control method has a purpose and place in the industry, and there's no one-size-fits-all solution. It takes a holistic approach to combat flies all season long.



Feed-through fly control should be implemented before flies emerge, or about 30 days before the last spring frost, for best results. The most effective use of feed-through fly control requires planning before fly season. Feed-through methods can still provide relief if implemented later in the season.



Insecticide-impregnated ear tags containing organophosphates and pyrethroids are commonly known to have horn fly resistance, decreasing effectiveness. Follow manufacturer recommendations and rotate tag insecticides as needed to mitigate fly resistance to insecticides.



Pour-ons and on-animal sprays can help reduce horn fly populations quickly, but require frequent applications to provide control all season long. These methods work best as a supplemental fly control method during spikes in fly numbers.



Dust bags, backrubs and oilers require animals to use them frequently. Free-choice implementation can take 2–3 weeks for cattle to adopt and might not provide equal protection throughout the herd, leaving some cattle more vulnerable. Thus, self-treatment devices shouldn't be the sole method of fly control.



Baits, area sprays and residual sprays are difficult to use in range settings and are best used in barns or a confinement setting.

WHEN TO START FEEDING WIND AND RAIN® FLY CONTROL MINERAL

Feed 30 days before the last frost of spring through 30 days after the first frost in the fall.



The best way to beat the buzz? A multi-pronged approach to fly control. Consider using a feed-through mineral, like Purina® Wind and Rain® Fly Control Mineral with Altosid®, in tandem with other fly control methods for season-long protection.

Find out how flies impact your herd and explore resources to beat the buzz at Purinamills.com/fly-control



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