

## The Yoder Effect

This is a conversation I had with one of our Midwestern Dairy farm customers who has a medium sized dairy.

Mr. Yoder said: "I want to tell you a story that happened at my farm. We are Amish and on Sunday the congregation came to my farm after church for food and conversation. I was sitting in a chair on the lawn when a retired Dairy Farmer came up to me and said 'Yoder, there is something strange going on here, something very different.' Yoder said, 'what do you mean?' The retired dairyman said 'Well, there are no flies around, no flies by the food and I was down by the cows and there are very few flies. What is going on?' Yoder replied 'Well, that is because I use fly parasites and have for several years and they prevent flies from hatching.' The retired dairy farmer replied 'well it sure is working' and left."

The "Yoder effect" is when fly parasites have taken control of the farm and destroy most of the fly larva before they can develop into flies. Flies then are no longer a bothersome nuisance on the premises.

The reason this happens is that when the female fly parasite hatches, she must feed to reproduce. To do that, she seeks out fly pupa and stings them and lays an egg or several eggs. This process kills the developing fly. She will sting several fly pupa. The eggs she lays will also hatch and the new female fly parasites will begin feeding and laying eggs, thus enhancing the fly control. By continuing to add new fly parasites throughout the summer and having the fly parasites reproduce the "Yoder effect" where the fly parasites take control can be achieved.

For best results we highly recommend:

Good clean management of your premises.

Added fly parasites bi-weekly throughout the summer or weekly if you are a dairy or large livestock facility.

Order at least the recommended amount of fly parasites for the number of animals you have. More is always better.

Add some effective fly traps to compliment fly parasites by reducing the number of flies laying eggs. We recommend the Cedar Fly Traps as the most effective traps.