

Insect Control Overview by Insect

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True, the buzz of a single fly around your horse's ears may be nothing more than a constant annoyance. However, the stress of a few persistent stable flies could be all it takes for your horse to lose her appetite, which could lead to weight loss, colic, or worse. Even more serious, some insects transmit potentially life-threatening diseases, such as West Nile Virus, encephalitis, or Lyme disease. But by understanding how certain bugs can affect your horse, you can better rid and repel them from your barn and home.

Insects defined

Many of the insects common around your horse are considered ectoparasites. That is, they are organisms that live on and receive some nourishment from your horse. This includes ticks, lice, mosquitoes, flies, and fly larvae. However, each type of insect can affect your horse in different ways. The chart below details the effect each type of insect has on your horse. It also outlines the products available to easily help control each insect species.

Insect	Effects	Control Products
Flies (Horse, horn, stable, face, etc)	Some are vicious biters and the bites can become infected. They may also transmit the fungus that causes rain gall. Stable flies can transmit equine infectious anemia. Botfly larvae can become parasitic in the stomach. Screwworm (fly larvae) can enter the skin and cause severe tissue destruction.	Farnam Bronco® E and Bronco® Gold , Endure® Repellents , Mosquito Halt® , Repel-X® , Farnam Flysect® , Bite Free™ , Equisect™ , Nature's Defense® , Tri-Tec 14™ , Wipe® Repellents , SWAT® Fly Ointment , Fly Rid™ Plus Spot-On , Equi-Spot® Spot-On , Roll-On Fly Repellent , SimpliFly®

Ticks	Can spread Lyme disease, piroplasmiasis, babesiosis, or other diseases. Severe tick infestations can cause anemia.	Endure® Repellents , Repel-X® , Farnam Flysect® , Bite Free™ , Tri-Tec 14™ , Pyranha Insect Control by Equine Direct , Ambush Insecticide & Repellent Spray by Farnam
Mosquitoes	Can spread West Nile Virus, Western, Eastern, and Venezuelan equine encephalitis. Severe mosquito attacks can cause anemia.	Endure® Repellents , Mosquito Halt® , Repel-X® , Farnam Flysect® , Bite Free™ , Equisect™ , Nature's Defense® , Tri-Tec 14™ , Wipe® Repellents , SWAT® Fly Ointment , Fly Rid™ Plus Spot-On , Roll-On Fly Repellent
Gnats	Can transmit the parasite that causes summer itch. Bites often cause skin allergies.	Endure® Repellents , Mosquito Halt® , Repel-X® , Farnam Flysect® , Bite Free™ , Equisect™ , Nature's Defense® , Tri-Tec 14™ , Wipe® Repellents , SWAT® Fly Ointment , Fly Rid™ Plus Spot-On , Roll-On Fly Repellent
Midges (no-see-ums)	Severe infestations can cause hair loss. May also lead to secondary bacterial infections.	Endure® Repellents , Mosquito Halt® , Repel-X® , Farnam Flysect® , Bite Free™ , Equisect™ , Nature's Defense® , Tri-Tec 14™ , Wipe® Repellents , SWAT® Fly Ointment , Fly Rid™ Plus Spot-On , Roll-On Fly Repellent
Lice	Itching. Severe infestations can cause hair loss or lead to anemia.	Endure® Repellents , Farnam Flysect® , Equisect™ , Tri-Tec 14™
Mites (mange)	Itching. Severe infestations may cause the skin to slough.	Endure® Repellents , Farnam Flysect® , Tri-Tec 14™