

Drain Flies



Drain fly adult



Drain fly adult(Ken Gray Collection)



Drain fly adult

Typical Location When Observed: Found around drains of sinks, particularly in spring.

Importance/Damage: Drain flies are important primarily as a nuisance in the home.

Distinguishing Features: Drain flies are small (1/5 to 1/6 inch) and mothlike in appearance, however, they have only one pair of wings.

Look-Alikes: Fungus gnats, small moths

General Life History and Habits: Drain fly eggs, maggots and pupae are found in the gelatinous film found lining the drains of many household sinks, where the maggots feeding on bacteria and other organic materials. Adults will be observed around drains or at lights at night. Large numbers of the flies can be produced where there is a problem with broken or leaking drain pipes.

Resources: More details on drain flies may be found in Extension Fact Sheet 5.502, *Flies in the Home*.

Scientific Name: *Psychoda* species

Order: Diptera (flies)

Family: Psychodidae (moth flies)

Actual Length
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