

## PROJECT FACT SHEET

**Project Title:** Parasitoids common to dairies in central Texas

**Project Lead:** [Texas Cooperative Extension](#)

**Principal Funding Provided By:** Texas Cooperative Extension

**Supplemental Funding Provided By:** [Texas Agriculture Experiment Station](#)

**Project Description:** Two dairies were sampled for house fly parasitoids. For eight weeks, 60 house fly pupae were sampled from each dairy. These pupae were stored in a rearing chamber and the number of parasitoids to emerge were identified and recorded.

**Project Benefits:** Insectaries produce and sell parasitoid wasps to many confined animal facilities in Texas. The cost for such a product can be as high as \$200/week. However, there is no information on the effectiveness of these products for suppressing house flies. Our study will accomplish the following: 1) educate livestock producers on the use of biological control for suppressing house flies, 2) determine the quality of product (parasitoids) being sold to producers, 3) develop an integrated pest management approach to suppressing insect pests on livestock facilities.

**Project Schedule:** Summer 2004

**Project Status:** Data collection will occur for two more years. Results will be tabulated and placed in refereed publication.