

Beneficial Species Profile



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Common Name: ---

Scientific Name: *Synthesiomyia nudiseta*

Order and Family: Diptera ; Muscidae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg		
Larva/Nymph		Smooth, tapered, creamy white
Adult	7-10 mm	Grey in color, checkerboard abdomen resembling a flesh fly, 4 longitudinal striped thorax, yellow-bright orange terminal segment of abdomen, antennae and palpi yellow-orange
Pupa (if applicable)		Difficult to recognize due to a white substance that they form in, as well as soil particles getting 'cemented' into the outer surface

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.):

Sponging in adults and mouthhooks in larvae

Host/s:

Larvae are predaceous and one of few species known to prey on *C. rufifacies*
Adults attracted to decaying vegetable matter, feces, and garbage.

Description of Benefits (predator, parasitoid, pollinator, etc.):

Can arrive at a body around the same time as *Sarcophaga* (flesh fly) species. Larvae develop slower and pupate with those of later arriving species. *S. nudiseta* has been said to prefer carrion as its food source.

Collecting and observing this species can assist in postmortem interval determinations at crime scenes. Typically can be found in feces, refuse, and garbage. However, studies have shown them to prefer carrion.

References:

Byrd, J. H., & Tomberlin, J. K. (2020). Forensic entomology: The utility of arthropods in legal investigations. Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group. pg 32