

Pollinator Profile: Flies

Some flies act just like bees, visiting sweet-smelling flowers. Others have more disgusting tastes.

They are attracted to flowers with **putrid odors**, **meat-like colors**, or **fur-like texture** that lure them in by pretending to be the **fresh dung or dead animal** that flies desire.

Favorite Flowers

- Flower Color:** Pale and dull to dark brown or purple; flecked with translucent patches
- Nectar Guides:** Absent
- Odor:** Putrid
- Nectar:** Usually absent
- Pollen:** Modest amount
- Flower Shape:** Shallow; funnel-like or complex and trap-like

Flies frequently visit Dutchman's pipe, pawpaw, and some viburnums.



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Do you know we can thank flies for chocolate?

Tiny flies called **midges** that inhabit the damp, shady rain forest are the only pollinator able to navigate the complex cacao flower.

actual size
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