

FLIES BROUGHT BACK WITH THE HAY FROM THE MEADOWS
INTO THE HAYLOFT
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During the summer of 1942 I had the opportunity to catch many flies which had been brought with the hay from the meadows in the hayloft of a farm in Beyne-Hetsay, near Liège (Belgium). The meadows had been mown and after three rather hot days the grass was dry. The vegetation of the meadows in my country consists chiefly of grasses and some other flowers: *Heracleum Sphondylium* L., *Daucus Carota* L., *Knautia arvensis* (L.) Coult., *Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum* L., *Rumex Acetosella* L., *Ranunculus* (mostly *acris* L.) and a few *Cirsium*. When the hay is stocked in the hayloft, many insects, especially flies, get out and flutter about on the small windows of the hayloft. The flies caught belong chiefly to small species. Here is the list:—

- ITONIDIDAE: *Lestremia* sp. and others.
LYCORIIDAE (Lengersdorf, F., det.): *Scatopsiara quinquelineata* Macq., *Neosciara fenestralis* Zett., *picipes* Zett., *pullula* Winn., *triseriata* Winn. and *vivida* Winn.
MELUSINIDAE: *Melusina ornata* Mg.
RHAGIONIDAE: *Rhagio vitripennis* Mg.
ASILIDAE: *Leptogaster cylindrica* Deg.
OMPHRALIDAE: *Omphrale fenestralis* L.
EMPIDIDAE (Engel, E. O., det.): *Coryneta* (= *Tachydromia*) *bicolor* Mg., *minuta* Mg. and *pallidiventris* Mg.
DOLICHOPODIDAE (Collart, A., det.): *Sciopus longulus* Fall.
PHORIDAE (Schmitz, R. P., det.): *Megaselia* (s.str.) *brevisetata* Wood.
SCIOMYZIDAE (Collart, A., det.): *Ditaenia cinerella* Fall.
TRYPETIDAE: *Ensina sonchi* L.
OPOMYZIDAE: *Opomyza germinationis* L., *Geomyza combinata* L. and *tripunctata* L.
AGROMYZIDAE (Bequaert, M. and Hering, M., det.): *Phytomyza atricornis* Mg., *Agromyza ocellaris* Hend. and *Cerodonta denticornis* Panz.
CHLOROPIDAE: *Oscinella frit* L. and other species.

The Lycoriidae, Opomyzidae and Agromyzidae are the families represented by the largest number of individuals. All these species are characteristic of the graminophilous populations. It is well known that among the Dipterous fauna of the meadows two main elements are represented: (1) Species the larvae of which breed in the vegetation (Trypetidae, Agromyzidae, etc.). These species constituted the majority of the flies caught because they remain in the mown grass and are brought into the hayloft with the hay. (2) Other species which are only hygrophilous and may be found very commonly on the grasses of our meadows (Melusinidae, Rhagionidae, Empididae, Dolichopodidae, etc.). These hygrophilous insects are brought back in lesser number in the hayloft. Indeed, they leave the mown meadows in search of moister locations as soon as the grass begins to dry.