



Entomology and Post - mortem Interval.

Cheese Skippers can move about by sudden, snapping movements of the body which may cause them to jump or skip as much as 10 inches, thus the common name “skipper”. Their entire body is only about half the size of that of the common house fly. They arrive no later than 1 week after death. Under normal to ideal conditions, the cheese skipper larvae complete their development in about five days. It takes as little as 15 days for this fly to develop from egg to mature adult. After about a month however, they appear to pop off their corpse to pupate on the soil.

Soldier Flies let the body age for about 20 days before coming in. The material in which the Soldier Fly breeds is always damp and usually in an advanced stage of decomposition. Adults can emerge as soon as 12 days after oviposition.

Hide Beetles and larvae prefer to feed on raw skins and hides. Females may each lay up to 800 eggs. The life cycle requires 40 to 50 days.

Rove Beetles are parasitic to various larvae of other insects. When larvae hatch in about 5-10 days they actively search for food. The larva punctures the host puparium, enters, and begins feeding. The entire host pupa is then consumed. Although two or more larvae may occasionally enter the same puparium, only one will survive to maturity. It will continue on to pupate within the host puparium and emerge as an adult after 30 to 40 days.

Clerid Beetles are predators of other species of beetles and their larvae. They are known to complete seven generations per year.