Musca sorbens are eye-seeking flies that breed in openly defecated waste.

The Life Cycle of Trachoma

Trachoma is an eye infection caused by the bacterium Chlamydia trachomatis. The bacterium is spread by direct person-to-person contact, shared cloths and towels, and by eye-seeking flies. Children ages 1-9 years and women harbor the greatest burden of disease. Repeated infections scar the inner eyelid, eventually causing the eyelid to turn inward. Once the eyelid has inverted, the eyelashes scratch the cornea, leading to irreversible blindness.

Frequent contact with children and flies increase the likelihood of women to be exposed to the disease.

The eyelashes scratch the cornea, leading to blindness.