

Food and Drug and the Bug, Presents:

Our 4th Annual Rodent, Pest & Food and Drug Safety Summit!



**Important Updates in Pest, Food & Drug
Safety Education to Protect your
Products, Health and Brand!**

WHEN:

Thursday March 26, 2026

Sign Up Here!



WHERE:

Crowne Plaza Hotel
15 Middlesex Canal Park Dr, Woburn, MA 01801

COST:

\$85 per person

Includes: Breakfast, Lunch, Beverages & Snacks During Breaks



Course Certificates Awarded for All Attendees!

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Senior Management, Food Safety/Quality Assurance, Sanitation, Operations, Logistics/Warehousing, Regulatory Inspectors, Food Safety Auditors, Academia

PRESENTERS & TOPICS:

Matt Frye, PhD, Cornell University - Scientific Dangers of Flies in Food and Medicine

Sheila Haddad, VP of North America, Bell Laboratories – Rodent Food Borne Illness

Coleen Thornton, Heaven Sent Food Safety – Divergent Demands; Ask the Auditor

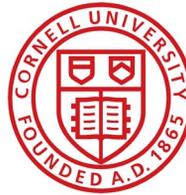
Kevin Moran, B.C.E. Forshaw Distributors – Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides – How We Can Reduce the Use (SGARS) **Hot Topic!**

Alicia Swanson – Swanson Food Safety – IPM and the 3rd Party Audit

Break-Out Session – Break into Groups to Solve a Challenging Pest Issue;

Best Presentation Wins Prizes!

Brought to You By:



Cornell University



Sign up here!



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4TH Annual Rodent Pest & Food & Drug Safety Summit Agenda- March 26, 2026
Crown Plaza Hotel, Woburn, MA 15 Middlesex Canal Park Dr, Woburn, MA 01801

Hosted by: Food and Drug and the Bug LLC and Forshaw Distributors

7:00 to 8:00 Registration, Breakfast & Mingle with Exhibitors

8:05 to 8:15 **Opening Remarks** – Chris Del Rossi, Founder & President – Food and Drug and the Bug LLC

8:20 to 9:20 Sheila Haddad, Bell Laboratories the World Leader in Rodent Control:
Updates on Rodent Issues, Disease, Prevention, Food Safety Concerns

9:25 to 10:25 Kevin Moran, BCE, Forshaw Distributors: Second Generation Anticoagulants (SGARS) How We Can Reduce Usage? **HOT TOPIC!**

10:30 to 10:45 Morning Refreshment Break & Mingle With Exhibitors

10:45 to 12:00 Coleen Thornton: Ask the Auditor Session (SQF and BRC)

- Discuss Divergent Demands
- SQF Ed 10 release and expected implementation date
- How SQFI is telling auditors to interpret Ed 9 until then (*Hint: The focus changes*)
- Ask your Burning Questions to help make "Compliance Live-able"

Lunch & Mingle with Exhibitors

12:05 to 12:45

12:50 to 1:45 Alician Swanson, "IPM and the Third Party Audit" Discussing Audit Standards (GFSI, GMP, etc) for IPM and how to handle corrective actions for non-conformances.

1:50 to 2:50 Dr Matt Frye; Scientific Dangers of Flies in Food Manufacturing
Also - House Mouse Device Avoidance Updates!

2:55 to 3:10 Afternoon Snack & Coffee Break & Mingle with Exhibitors

3:15 to 4:15 Interactive Break Out Session "Team up to Prevent!" A challenging pest issue will be announced with complexities to discuss together. Prizes to the Winning Team!

4:20 to 4:30 Closing Remarks & Adjourn



Safe Travels to All!

\$85 Per
Person to
Register



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Presentation Title: Scientific dangers of flies in food facilities

Speaker: Matt Frye, PhD, Rodent & Structural Pest Management Specialist, Cornell IPM

Venue: 4th Annual Rodent Pest and Food Safety Summit; Food and Drug and the Bug

Date: 3/26/2026

Introduction

- Flies as underestimated food safety hazard
- Real-world consequences: recalls, outbreaks, regulatory action
- Flies as active vectors, not passive nuisances

Fly Biology Relevant to Food Safety

- Common species in food facilities (houseflies, fruit flies, drain flies)
- Life cycle and rapid population growth
- Feeding and movement behavior
- Why flies are optimized to spread pathogens

Contamination Pathways

- Mechanical Transmission
 - External body contamination (legs, mouthparts)
 - Body parts as microbial reservoirs
 - Movement between waste, drains, raw materials, and finished products
- Internal Transmission
 - Ingestion and regurgitation
 - Defecation on food-contact surfaces
 - Survival of pathogens in the fly gut

Brief Mention of Pathogens Associated with Flies

- Bacterial pathogens: *Salmonella* spp., *E. coli*, *Listeria monocytogenes*, *Campylobacter*
- Viruses & parasites
- Antimicrobial resistance concerns

Why food facilities are vulnerable:

- Moisture, organic residues, temperature
- Open processing steps
- High surface contact density
- High-risk areas:
 - Receiving docks
 - Waste handling zones
 - Drains and floor cracks
 - Packaging and cooling areas

Detection, Monitoring, and Risk Assessment

Control & Prevention: Science-Based Strategies

- Integrated Pest Management
- Sanitation as a microbial control, not just pest control
- Physical exclusion and facility design
- Monitoring, documentation, and continuous improvement
- “zero tolerance” mentality

Conclusion & Key Takeaways

- Flies as biological vectors with measurable risk
- Scientific justification for aggressive prevention
- Actionable mindset shift: from nuisance control to pathogen control
- Final message: controlling flies is controlling foodborne illness risk

Rodent Behavior: Equipment Aversion and Disregard

- Brief introduction to concept and significance
 - Brief discussion on overcoming aversion behaviors
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Biography

Dr. Matt Frye is the Rodent and Structural Pest Management Specialist with Cornell Integrated Pest Management. He provides education and conducts research related to pest management in and around buildings. Matt earned his Master’s and PhD degrees in Entomology from the University of Delaware and began his career in the pest management industry in 2011 as an Urban Entomologist for a NY-based pest management company. He continues to consult on inspections, product development, and as a science advisor for the pest management industry.