

## THIS WEEK'S CREATION MOMENT

### The Genius of Insect Flight



*He spake, and there came divers sorts of flies, and lice in all their coasts. (Psalm 105:31)*

Flying insects have been a huge mystery to scientists, especially those who believe in evolution. Until recently, scientists didn't know how flying insects could fly. Wind tunnel tests on insect wings showed that their wings produce anywhere from a third to half as much lift needed for flight, depending on the species. Yet, horseflies have been clocked flying at up to 90 miles per hour!

Detailed research on the biomechanics of insect flight has now revealed how they manage to fly. Insect flight does not use quite the same principles as airplane flight. Unlike the wings of a modern airplane, insect wings trace a figure eight during flight. If an airliner's wings attack the air at an angle of more than 18 degrees, the vortex that provides lift to the top of the wing pulls away from the wing and the result is a stall. Insect wings, however, attack the air at a much steeper angle. Why doesn't the lifting vortex pull away from an insect's wing, leaving the insect in a stall? Researchers learned that because the insect's wing is moving faster at the tip, the lifting vortex does not pull away from the wing and gives the insect a 70 percent increase in lift.

Evolutionists depict today's flying insects as descendants of ancient insects that could only glide. Then, over supposed millions of years, they developed the wings and flight skills of modern insects. This recent research, however, reveals that insect flight is no chance development. It was carefully engineered by a Creator from the very beginning.

Ref: Discover, 4/00, pp. 27-28, "What's the Buzz?" Photo: Horsefly. Courtesy of Dennis Ray. (CC BY-SA 2.5)

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