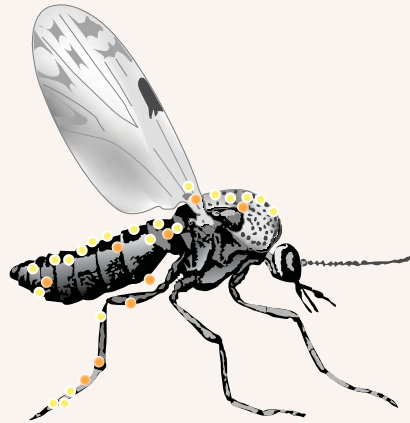
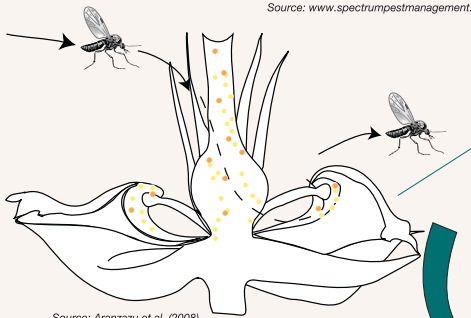


Cocoa-pollinating flies



Source: www.spectrumpestmanagement.com/bug-faqs.html

The most important pollinators of cocoa are the flies called *Forcipomya*.

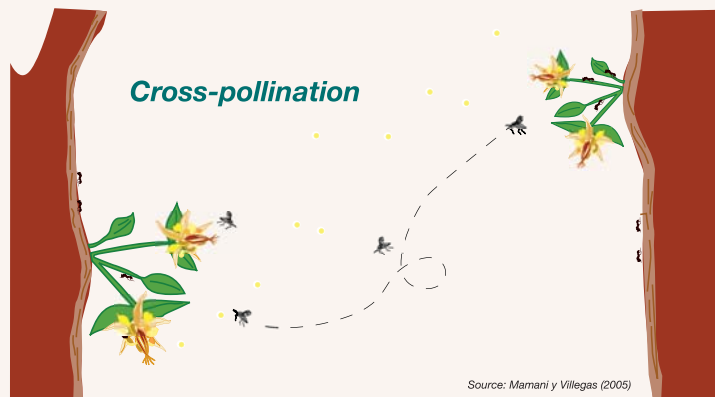


Source: Aranzazu et al. (2008)

They are attracted by the color of the cocoa flower staminodes and visit the flowers in search of food—there the pollen sticks to their body.

Then they fly to other flowers, carrying the pollen.

They leave pollen on the stigma of flowers, which leads to pollination and fecundation.



Source: Mamani y Villegas (2005)

Cocoa plantations that have good shade provided by timber and fruit trees, bananas and leaf litter favor the life cycle of flies.



Placing banana stalks near the cocoa trees helps with reproduction of these flies.