

Suggested Study Guide for the Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Service Office
Delhi Sands Flower Loving Fly
(*Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis*, DSF)
Practical Exam

Test Rules:

- I. All specimens on the exam co-occur with DSF in its current range.
- II. The testee must identify 10 pinned specimens. All specimens must be identified to Family (Latin and common), see list below for examples.
- III. The *Rhaphiomidas* species* must also be identified to species (common name or scientific species name) and sex. The currently accepted taxonomic family classification for all *Rhaphiomidas* spp. is Mydidae.
- IV. Grading is not based on correct spelling, however names must be recognizable. Common names help clarify misspelled Latin names, that is why they are included.
- V. The testee has 5 minutes to complete the exam.
- VI. The testee can miss up to two specimens but cannot misidentify *Rhaphiomidas* (i.e., the testee cannot identify *Rhaphiomidas* as another taxon or another taxon as *Rhaphiomidas*, which is automatic failure).
- VII. Specimens of any family that might possibly be confused with the DSF can be on the test.
- VIII. An individual may take the exam only twice prior to any given DSF season. If they fail the test twice, they must wait until the end of the DSF flight season before they can come back in for another attempt at the exam.

Potential test specimens may include:

Scoliidae; scoliid wasps	Mydidae; Midas flies
Asilidae; robber flies	Bombyliidae; bee flies
Tabanidae; horse flies	Apioceridae; flower-loving flies
Mutillidae; velvet ants	Sphecidae; thread-waisted wasps
Vespidae; vespid wasps	Reduviidae; assassin bugs
Tachinidae; tachinid flies	Oestridae or Cuteribridae; rabbit bot flies
Syrphidae; syrphid flies, hover flies	Apidae; carpenter bees
Pompiliidae; spider wasps	

* - *Rhaphiomidas* on the exam may not be DSF because specimens are difficult to attain.

Revised: May 31, 2019