

KVH Information Sheet

Most Unwanted update



Fruit Fly – risk update March 2017

Fruit fly is considered the greatest threat to the kiwifruit industry, as incursions can severely impact where we can sell our fruit. Queensland fruit fly (QFF) in particular is considered the greatest threat as it has the most market impacts, and has the highest risk of entry as it is native to Australia our closest neighbour.

QFF and other fruit fly species are regularly intercepted at our border by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) across a range of pathways. The latest fruit fly interception data for this year is shown in the table below.

<i>Fruit fly species</i>	<i>Pathway</i>	<i>Month</i>	<i>Country of origin</i>	<i>Host</i>	<i>Life state</i>
Pacific Fruit Fly	Passenger	January 2017	Pacific Islands	Breadfruit	Dead
Unconfirmed (likely Pacific Fruit Fly)	Passenger	January 2017	Samoa	Breadfruit	Alive
Oriental Fruit Fly	Passenger	February 2017	Sri Lanka	Mango	Alive
Pacific Fruit Fly	Passenger	February 2017	Tonga	Breadfruit	Dead
Unconfirmed (likely Pacific Fruit Fly)	Passenger	February 2017	Samoa	Breadfruit	Dead

Over the 2016/17 summer there were:

- 148 fruit fly host material seizures from 120 cruise ships.
- 186 fruit fly host material seizures from 297 yachts inspected by MPI.
- In 2016 there were 212 seizures of fruit fly host material through the mail pathway.
- None of these seizures had fruit fly present.

Interceptions are a reminder that we must remain vigilant and keep watch. The earlier we find an unwanted fly, the greater the chance of successful eradication.

The Pacific Fruit Fly is a minor species with minimal trade impacts to the New Zealand kiwifruit industry.

What's being done

QFF is an established pest in eastern Australia, New Caledonia, and French Polynesia. It is not established anywhere outside the South Pacific, and as such our key markets do not import fruit from countries where it occurs.



There is a Government Industry Agreement (GIA) surveillance programme in place to keep a close and constant lookout for QFF. The programme watches for numerous species of fruit fly and involves traps that are set around the country. Pheromones are used to lure male flies into the traps, which are mostly placed near airports, seaports, and densely populated areas – where flies would most likely enter the country.

As of September, there were more than 3,000 QFF traps established and inspected regularly (out of a total of 7,500 traps). Just over 1500 samples have been sent for identification since September without any positive QFF detections.

As well as the surveillance programme, the GIA also has readiness and response activities underway so that in the event of any QFF finds, action is taken that minimises any impacts. There are also projects underway to improve detection and eradication.

KVH and Zespri are also working together on exercise scenarios to ensure there are robust plans in place for quickly getting information to and from growers, and organising logistics, in the event of a QFF find.



What you can do

- Know what the QFF looks like so you know what to look out for (the QFF high risk entry period is over summer and stretches until June).
- When you – or your family or friends travel – make sure fresh fruit and vegetables are left behind and don't travel with you.
- If you hear of someone that has accidentally bought fruit or vegetables in to New Zealand make sure it is reported to MPI and then appropriately destroyed (bagged and put in the rubbish is the best way, not composted).

If you see this pest, or anything else unusual catch it, take a photo and report it to either MPI on 0800 80 99 66 or KVH on 0800 665 825.

