



KVH INFORMATION SHEET

Fruit fly risk update – October 2018

Fruit flies are considered the greatest biosecurity threat to the kiwifruit industry, as incursions can severely impact where we sell our fruit, which has significant impacts on grower's OGR.

The Queensland Fruit Fly (QFF) has the most market impacts and has the highest risk of entry as it is native to Australia, our closest neighbour.



No new finds at the border

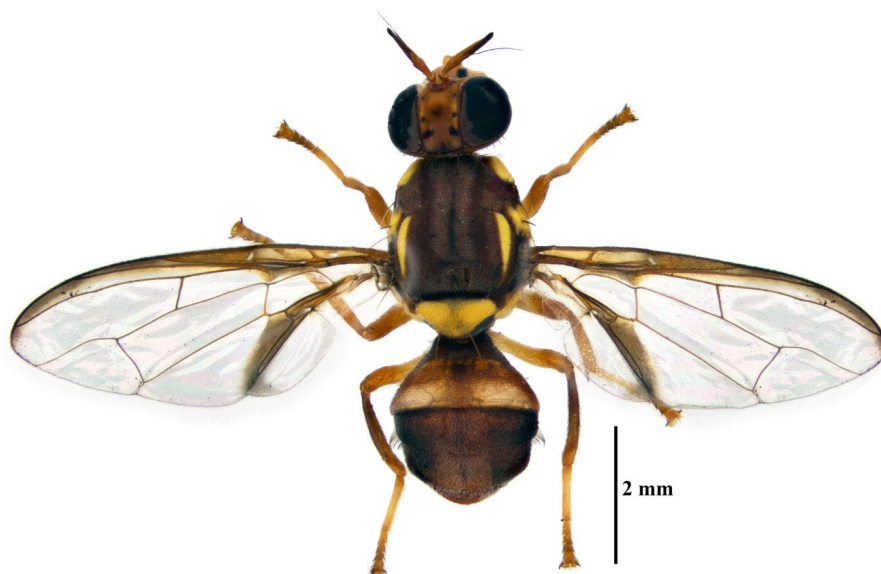
Since the start of the high-risk season (1 September 2018) there have been no fruit fly interceptions.

There were six calls and two emails to the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) hotline in September relating to suspected fruit fly, however none resulted in positive finds.

Surveillance traps

New Zealand has a comprehensive fruit fly surveillance programme in place which involves almost 8,000 pheromone traps checked on a fortnightly basis. The trapping network is designed for early detection of a breeding population and uses three different lures which can detect several economically significant fruit fly species including QFF, Mediterranean and Oriental species.

The 2018-19 fruit fly trapping season began 1 October 2018 and as of mid-October there have been almost 10,000 inspections. No fruit flies of concern have been found.



What's happening overseas?

- QFF is not present in Western Australia but is sometimes detected and requires an eradication response to contain and prevent further spread. MPI's Australian equivalent acts quickly to respond to incursions by implementing an eradication programme, including outbreak zones and quarantine areas.
- QFF larvae were found by field officers in loquat fruit in early October on a vineyard in Victoria, Australia. The discovery is a reminder to commercial growers and home gardeners that flies which have survived over winter have now mated and laid eggs.
- The Australian finds and biosecurity responses are being closely followed by KVH and MPI staff to make sure we monitor any change in risk to New Zealand.
- Plant & Food Research were granted permission a few years ago to import sterile QFF into a New Zealand containment facility to develop new attractants for female and male flies. This work is part of a collaborative approach with Australian organisations and is supported by KVH as an integral part of our readiness activities. Read more about this work on the fruit flies page of the KVH website.
- As part of Tauranga Moana Biosecurity Capital biosecurity week activities, KVH and Zespri ran a grower day dedicated to learning more about the initiatives underway to protect the New Zealand kiwifruit industry from unwanted pests and diseases. The day included a technical workshop during the afternoon that focused on a market access simulation, working through the impacts of a QFF incursion in the Bay of Plenty.

What you can do

- The high-risk entry period for fruit flies runs through to June. Be vigilant and keep watch. While it may be possible to find on fruit trees if present, a better option is to look out for any larvae in fruit, including tree fallen fruit.
- If you hear of someone that has accidentally bought fruit or vegetables into 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).
- Report any finds or anything else unusual to either MPI on 0800 80 99 66 or KVH on 0800 665 825.



CATCH IT

SNAP IT

REPORT IT

REPORT THE UNUSUAL