



Fact Sheet:

Queensland Fruit Fly

Bactrocera tryoni

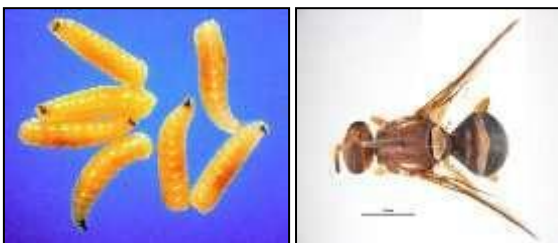
Queensland Fruit Fly (QFF) is a very serious pest of a wide variety of hosts and is a particular threat to northern NZ. Damage levels can be up to 100% of unprotected fruit. In addition to physical damage QFF inflicts economic damage through loss of market access, and costs associated with quarantine and monitoring.

Identification

The adult female is approximately 6-8mm long with a 10-12mm wingspan. The wings are mostly transparent, marked with brown and the fly is reddish brown with yellow markings.



Eggs are small <1mm long, white and banana shaped. Larvae grow to 6-8mm long and are pale yellow.



Distribution and climate range

QFF is indigenous only to Australia but has the potential to establish populations in other tropical areas. It is the major fruit fly pest species in Eastern Australia and occurs in large populations.

It is also established in New Caledonia and the Austral Islands. It is usually found in the warmer areas of Australia but has been found in Tasmania indicating that adult fly may be able to establish in New Zealand especially in the warmer regions.



Distribution of Queensland Fruit Fly shown in yellow

Signs and symptoms

QFF are most active in warm, humid conditions and after rain, they might be seen walking on the undersides of leaves or on maturing fruit.

Damage to fruit results from eggs being laid in fruit, feeding by the larvae, and decomposition of plant tissue by secondary microorganisms.

Control

New Zealand has a fruit fly surveillance programme that has been operating for almost 20 years and involves over 7500 traps nationwide. There have been nine recorded fruit fly interceptions since 1989 of which six were the QFF, including the three most recent in 2014 and 2015. These interceptions resulted in increased trapping surveillance surrounding the location and have successfully prevented a population establishing.

What should you do if you think you have seen this pest?

Phone MPI on 0800 80 99 66 or KVH on 0800 665 825.

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