

HOW DOES THE SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME WORK?

This programme is operated and resourced by the New Zealand Government at a cost of about \$1.4 million per annum.

Approximately 7500 traps are set up and maintained from September to June of each year. Traps are placed in grids, concentrating in populated areas serving as centres for tourism and/or trade, areas of significant horticultural activity and areas specified as being climatically conducive to the establishment of fruit flies.

Traps are placed in the canopy of a fruit tree at each site. MPI approved trappers check each trap for fruit flies every two weeks during the trapping period. Traps used in the programme are Lynfield traps which are baited with a pheromone lure plug to attract the flies. There are three different types of lure used: Cuelure, Trimedlure or Methyl Eugenol – each lure attracts a different type of fruit fly.

A DDVP insecticide strip is also placed in the bottom of the each trap to ensure that the trapped flies are killed and retained in the traps until the traps are next inspected by a MPI approved person. DDVP insecticide is a regulated substance, and should only be handled by the trappers who receive specific training in handling DDVP. There is a warning label on the outside of the trap, but if you notice any children playing in the vicinity, please ensure that they do not touch the trap.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

The Fruit Fly Surveillance Programme relies on property owners' in-kind contributions to the programme. Property owners host the traps, allowing access to MPI approved personnel to service and check the traps at 2-weekly intervals. They also assist by reporting back to MPI if they suspect something may be compromising the integrity of the traps located on their property.

We sincerely thank the property owners who host the traps for this programme. If you are not currently hosting traps but are approached by MPI approved personnel to host them, we hope that you are able to assist. Please note that since these traps need to be located in specific places to ensure the surveillance grids are complete, your property would have to be in a suitable location to assist with hosting.

If you find suspected maggots of fruit flies or the adult flies on fresh produce, please call: 0800 80 99 66



Photo: NSW Department of Primary Industries

Fruit fly eggs inside fruit

New Zealand Government

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Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua



FRUIT FLY SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME



provides assurance of New Zealand's freedom from fruit flies



WHAT ARE FRUIT FLIES?

Fruit flies belong to the family Tephritidae, which includes over 4500 species. While sixty species are known to infest commercial fruit types around 20 species can be considered as serious pests.

The New Zealand Fruit Fly Surveillance Programme targets economically important species such as the Queensland fruit fly, Oriental fruit fly and Mediterranean fruit fly. These pests infest a wide variety of fruits and vegetables including citrus, apples, feijoa and avocados, amongst others.

Fruit flies damage fruits and vegetables when the female fly lays eggs inside the skin of the fruit. The larvae then develop and grow inside the fruit leaving the fruit pulp damaged – the larvae do not usually leave the fruit until the fruit is ripe.

Most countries harbour some species of fruit flies, but New Zealand is fortunate to be free of these pests. Fruit flies could enter New Zealand via imported fruit and vegetables or with fruit brought in by passengers arriving here from overseas.

This programme is only one part of a series of measures put in place by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) for the prevention and management of the risk of incursion of economically important fruit flies into New Zealand. Screening the personal effects of incoming international passengers at the border assists with the detection of unauthorised fresh produce into the country. There are also various Import Health Standards (e.g. Fresh or Frozen Fruit and Vegetables) in place to ensure that the imported fresh produce are free of viable fruit fly and their eggs.

WHY DO SURVEILLANCE?

The Fruit Fly Surveillance Programme was initiated in the mid 1970s to provide assurance of country freedom from economically important fruit flies, and early warning of fruit fly incursions to facilitate eradication.

The absence of economically important fruit flies in New Zealand allows for our fresh export produce to be certified as free of infestation, and exported to areas where economically important fruit flies do not occur. Also there is a cost saving factor for growers who grow fruit fly susceptible crops here without the need for the management of fruit fly damage.

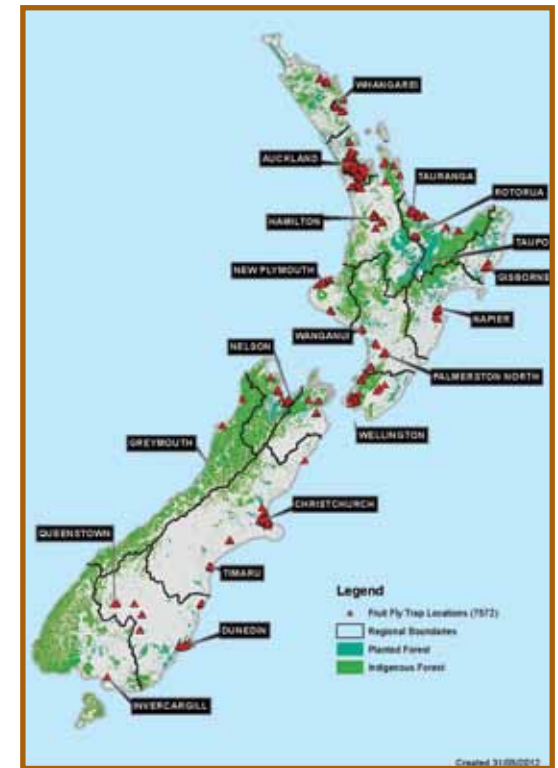
Export of horticultural produce from New Zealand earned \$2.2 billion in 2011. Over 90 percent of the fresh fruit and vegetable exports by value are for produce that could host fruit flies.



Fruit Fly trap

If there is an incursion of fruit fly, the earlier we detect it, the easier and cheaper it will be to eradicate the fruit flies.

Since 1989, the trapping programme has detected six incursions of fruit flies into New Zealand, and all have been in Auckland or Northland. The last incursion was in May 2012, when a single male Queensland fruit fly was detected in the Auckland suburb of Avondale. Further trapping identified no further fruit flies were present.



IF YOU FIND SUSPECTED MAGGOTS OR FRUIT FLIES PLEASE CALL 0800 80 99 66

