

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Information will be available very soon (if not already) at the MPI website www.mpi.govt.nz. This will include a map of the fruit fly zone. Keep an eye on this site for regular updates. Updates will also be on a range of radio stations and there will be information in the news media.

If you live in or near the fruit fly area, you will receive full information and further instructions within the next day or two. You may receive a visit from someone from MPI telling you what to do and how you can help in this important operation.

An official MPI inspector may need to check your garden for any signs of fruit fly. They will be particularly interested to look at any fruit trees, vegetable gardens or rubbish bins. They may also ask to set a small trap in your garden so that any fruit flies around are caught.

If your house is very close to where the fruit fly was found, you may receive your own wheelie bin to safely dispose of all fruit, vegetable and garden waste.

If you live in the fruit fly zone/area, there will be bins made available at handy locations for waste disposal.

If you need to talk to someone about this, call MPI on **Freephone 0800 80 99 66**

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP.

FRUIT FLY AT A GLANCE

'Fruit fly has been found in the local area. This insect threatens New Zealand's \$3.6 billion a year fruit and vegetable export industry.

The Ministry for Primary Industries is working to find out if there are more fruit flies out there and where they are. The aim is to find and destroy them.

While this important work goes on – please don't move any fruit, vegetables or garden waste out of your property. This is only short-term and if you live in the fruit fly affected area, you'll get further information soon.

**Further information is at:
www.mpi.govt.nz**

Freephone 0800 80 99 66



Enlarged picture of a fruit fly seen from above.

December 2015

Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua



FRUIT FLY HAS BEEN FOUND IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD



**You can help stop its spread –
don't move fruit or vegetables
out of your property**



HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF FRUIT FLY

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) is investigating a find of fruit fly in your area.

Fruit flies can seriously harm the country's fruit and vegetable crops and stop New Zealand from exporting some products.

While MPI works to find out if there are any more fruit flies in the area, we need your help to make sure if more flies are present, you don't unknowingly carry them to new locations.

PLEASE DON'T MOVE FRUIT OR VEGETABLES OUT OF YOUR PROPERTY

MPI will get full information to you very soon. But in the meantime, we ask that you do not move any fruit, vegetables, fruit or vege scraps, or garden waste (for example, prunings, dead fruit and compost, etc) out of your property.

It is particularly important that you do not take home-grown fruit or vegetables away from your home until further notice.

While it is preferable not to, if you must send fruit or veges out of your home, for example in school lunches, please only do this with store bought produce and not home-grown.

WHY THIS IS SO IMPORTANT

Fruit flies lay their eggs inside ripening fruit. Their offspring grow in the fruit, feeding on the flesh and making the fruit inedible and unsuitable for sale. Many countries won't buy our fruit and vegetables if we have an established population of fruit fly. We need to quickly find any fruit flies present, destroy them, and be able to assure export markets that we have got rid of this pest.

If it turns out there are more fruit flies in your neighbourhood, and if they are moved out of the area in fruit and vegetables, the job of finding and getting rid of them is made much harder.



Fruit fly larvae in fruit.

FRUIT AND VEGES TO BE PARTICULARLY CAREFUL ABOUT

Until further notice, be particularly careful with **ALL** fruit, including:

- » vegetables such as tomato, capsicum, pumpkin, courgette, marrow, avocado, eggplant and olives;
- » all berries, even those on weeds and trees;
- » the fleshy fruits of nuts such as walnut and macadamia;
- » compost and peelings.

Don't move these off your property except for secure disposal in bins provided by MPI.

Further details may be provided as more information is obtained.



WHAT DO FRUIT FLIES LOOK LIKE?

Fruit flies look like small house flies.

Actual size of a fruit fly. 

MPI traps will find any further fruit flies. It is most likely that there won't be many and you won't see them.

If you think you have found fruit flies, note their location, catch a sample if you can, and call MPI on Freephone **0800 80 99 66**.

If you find maggots in ripening or ripe fruit put the fruit into a plastic container with several scrunpled pieces of tissue paper, put the lid on, place it in the fridge and phone MPI on Freephone **0800 80 99 66**.



Enlarged picture of a fruit fly seen from the side.

IF YOU FIND SUSPECTED MAGGOTS OR FRUIT FLIES

PLEASE CALL 0800 80 99 66