

Restrictions on fruit and vegetable movements are still in force

Biosecurity New Zealand has been working in your area since February to eliminate the Queensland fruit fly. This insect is a serious pest of horticulture and home gardens and if it became established here, it would severely affect our international trade in fruit and vegetables, and impact domestically produced fruit.

When a male fruit fly was first found in a surveillance trap in Northcote, an extensive operation began to locate and kill any further flies present and to stop them spreading out of the area through controls on the movement of fruit and vegetables. Those controls remain in force.

It has now been over a month since any sign of a fruit fly has been found. This is good news but it does not yet mean the job is done.

Fruit flies are less active in the cooler weather, so while we hope that our programme has been successful, we can't be sure until the springtime. Field operations will slow down over winter, but they won't stop. Some of our surveillance traps will stay out to attract and catch any flies that may be active on a warm day.

Please continue to work with us and stick to the rules on fruit and vegetable movement.

What's changed?

Zone A has been removed

When the fruit fly response started, Biosecurity New Zealand imposed a controlled area extending out from the location where the flies were trapped. Within that, smaller zones around the locations of the finds were established, called A zones. This area had tighter controls on the movement of produce. Residents were asked to avoid moving fruit or vegetables out of Zone A and all properties had their own wheelie bin for disposal of produce waste.

Biosecurity New Zealand has reviewed Zone A and decided to lift those Zone A restrictions and move those properties into Zone B, meaning they are no longer subjected to the heightened restrictions.

Map of the new zones



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A refresher on the movement controls on fruit and vegetables

In Zone B – please don't move any whole fresh fruit or vegetables that have been grown inside Zone B (except for leafy or root veges) outside of the wider controlled area boundaries.

You are also allowed to dispose of windfall in Biosecurity New Zealand bins (as you have been all along).

Biosecurity New Zealand bins will be available throughout the wider Zone B.

Full information about the fruit and vege restrictions is at: www.biosecurity.govt.nz/fruitfly

It remains important that no whole fresh fruit and vegetables that have been grown inside Zone B (except for leafy and root vegetables) are moved outside of the controlled area.

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BIOSECURITY 2025

IF YOU SEE SIGNS OF FRUIT FLY CALL 0800 80 99 66

Emptying of Biosecurity New Zealand wheelie bins

The bins may not be emptied as frequently as they have been over summer, but will continue to be emptied at least once a week and definitely before they can overflow. The number of bins in the field will reduce slightly and properties that were formerly in the Zone A will no longer have their own individual bin, and will need to use a shared bin with other properties on the street.

Biosecurity New Zealand's treatments and surveillance

Since operations began, Biosecurity New Zealand has been applying insecticide bait to fruiting trees throughout the controlled area to attract and kill adult flies. This baiting has now stopped in the interim, but may need to restart in spring based on information from the trapping programme and technical advice.

A network of surveillance traps will remain out over winter even though flies are usually not active at this time of year. These traps will be checked less frequently than at the height of activities.



What should I do if I think I've found evidence of a fruit fly?

Biosecurity New Zealand's traps will attract any fruit flies that may be present. These traps are internationally recognised as the best method to find fruit flies. Many different insects look like fruit flies and they're very difficult to identify by untrained people. So you don't need to go looking for them.

It is unlikely that you will find a fruit fly in the wild. However, if you find eggs or larvae (baby flies – these are small worm-like bugs) inside a piece of fruit, immediately tie it inside a plastic bag and call us on **0800 80 99 66**.

Thanks for your support in this operation. Biosecurity New Zealand understands that this response is a significant inconvenience for those living and working in the controlled area. Your support is very much appreciated by both Biosecurity New Zealand and New Zealand's horticultural growers.

Find full information on the Queensland fruit fly and the controls on fruit movement in Auckland at:

www.biosecurity.govt.nz/fruitfly



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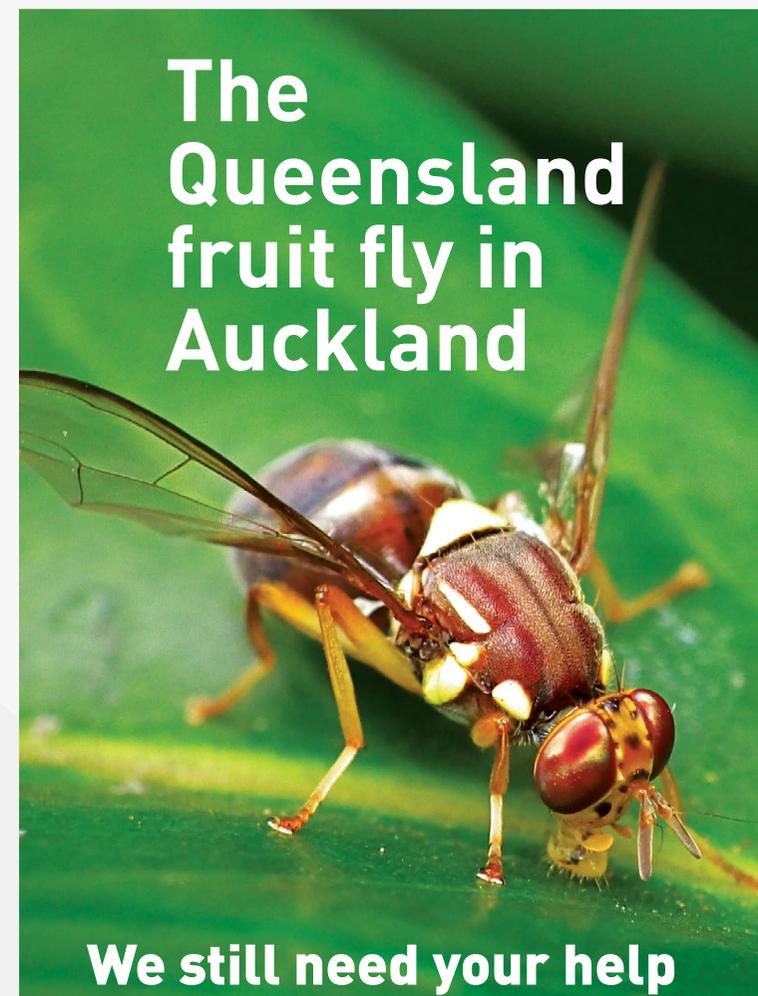
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New Zealand Government



Biosecurity New Zealand

Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua



Fruit flies can damage New Zealand's fruit and vegetable crops. We need your help to prevent them spreading to fruit and vegetable growing areas.

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