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PIRSA

FRUIT FLY MANAGEMENT – SOUTH AUSTRALIA

FRUIT FLY AREA FREEDOM – THE BENEFITS

South Australia and the SA Riverland are recognised as being free of both Queensland Fruit Fly and Mediterranean Fruit Fly. Area freedom means significant advantages for South Australia's \$1.25 billion horticultural sector and for the community. Produce grown in a pest free area is accepted by many markets without pre or post-harvest treatment. Cost of production is thereby reduced, insecticide residue problems are avoided and the marketability of the product is frequently improved.

To maintain pest free status there is an integrated program established comprising the following:

- Monitoring via a state wide trapping grid
- Border controls – quarantine stations, disposal bins
- Public awareness/education – media, signage
- Movement controls/conditions of entry – Interstate Certification Assurance's (ICA) & Compliance Arrangement's (CA), random roadblocks; and eradication of isolated detections.



DETECTIONS

Single fly detections and isolated incursions can occur from time to time if people bring infested fruit or vegetables into South Australia. PIRSA's comprehensive fruit fly trapping grid across metropolitan Adelaide, production areas and sentinel sites provides a robust early detection mechanism for South Australia. Single non-breeding fly detections do not constitute a fruit fly outbreak and do not impact on the marketing of produce. To confirm that a detection is not an indication of a significant problem, PIRSA installs additional supplementary traps within 200m of each detection site and undertakes a larval search to determine whether or not any fruit fly larvae are present. In the Riverland, if any of the triggers (outlined below) occur, a representative from the detection area will be invited to join the Riverland Fruit Fly Committee for the duration of a fruit fly response.

FRUIT FLY OUTBREAK TRIGGERS

Queensland Fruit Fly	Mediterranean Fruit Fly
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 5 male (or non-gravid female) flies detected within a 1km radius over a two-week period 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 3 male (or non-gravid female) flies detected within a 1km radius over a two-week period
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least one gravid female detected 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least one gravid female detected
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live larvae detected in locally grown fruit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live larvae detected in locally grown fruit.

OUTBREAK DECLARATION

If an outbreak of fruit fly is declared, the following areas are defined:

- Outbreak area –the area out to a radius of 1.5km from the discovery point; and
- Suspension zone - the area up to 15km radius from the discovery point.

All properties that lie partly within a zone/area are usually recognised as being completely within the zone/area. Host produce grown within the outbreak area and the suspension zone cannot be moved out of the corresponding zone, sent to or transported through a pest free area without being treated by an approved disinfestation treatment or under specific permit.

Accreditation is available for growers within the 15km suspension zone that allows produce to move under an integrated property management program which includes bait application and a trapping component. This accreditation (ICA-56) is only available to growers outside of the 1.5km outbreak area and must be implemented for a full two-week period before produce is able to move. Not all markets accept ICA 56.

OUTBREAK RESPONSE

If an outbreak is declared, a formal eradication program begins. A fruit fly eradication program typically consists of:

- A public awareness campaign highlighting movement restrictions
- A hygiene component to remove fallen host fruit.
- A baiting component where organic bait is applied to trees throughout the outbreak area.
- A trapping component where a concentrated trapping grid is established to monitor fruit fly numbers; and
- A sterile release component where large numbers of sterile fruit fly may be released.



GROWERS' ROLE

Property owners will be encouraged to maintain good property hygiene to reduce the risk of having fruit fly susceptible fruit unnecessarily lying on the ground. Their cooperation will also be sought in regard to allowing the outbreak response to continue unimpeded within the outbreak area.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further outbreak information: http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/biosecuritysa/fruit_fly/fruit_fly_outbreaks2

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