

# Frequently Asked Questions

May 2019

## Queensland Fruit Fly Outbreak – Lindsay Point, Victoria

You may be aware an outbreak of Queensland fruit fly (Q-fly) was declared at Lindsay Point in Victoria on Tuesday 21 May 2019. This region is part of the Riverland Pest Free Area.

PIRSA Biosecurity SA is working with Agriculture Victoria to respond to the outbreak; movement controls on produce are in place and a suspension area around Lindsay Point is being implemented in line with the National Fruit Fly Management Protocols.

The detection area is near the junction of the South Australian, Victorian and New South Wales borders.

An incident command centre has been established at the Loxton Research Centre and a dedicated number – 1800 255 556 – is available for industry queries.

Find maps and other information under “Current outbreaks and detections” on [www.pir.sa.gov.au/fruitfly](http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/fruitfly)

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## Terminology/references

Fruit Fly Affected Areas	<p>The whole area incorporating both the Outbreak Area and the Suspension Area:</p> <p><i>Discovery Point</i> – location of fruit fly detection(s)</p> <p><i>Outbreak Area</i> – 1.5km radius around the Discovery Point</p> <p><i>Suspension Area</i> – 1.5km to 15km radius around the Discovery Point.</p>
Fruit Fly Host Produce	<p>Includes citrus, stonefruit, pomefruit, table grapes, winegrapes, pomegranates and avocados. For more extensive list refer to the Fruit Fly Host Check List on PIRSA's website.</p>
ICA	<p>Interstate Certification Arrangement for treatment and certification</p>
ICA57	<p>Interstate Certification Arrangement for the Repacking of Certified Fruit Fly Host Produce</p>
Pre-harvest treated	<p>Produce which has been treated in-field (either chemical/bait or Harvest Condition and Inspection). Pre harvest treatments include:</p> <p>ICA13 - Unbroken Skin Conditions (Pomegranates and Tropical fruit)</p> <p>ICA15 - Mature Green Condition of Passionfruit, Tahitian Limes, Black Sapotes and Tomatoes (except for fruit destined for Western Australia)</p> <p>ICA20 - Pre-harvest Treatment and Inspection of Table Grapes</p> <p>ICA21 - Pre-harvest Treatment and Inspection of Approved Host Fruits (Stone Fruit, Blueberries, Persimmons and Pomefruit)</p> <p>ICA26 - Pre-harvest Treatment of Tomatoes, Capsicums, Chillies and Eggplants</p> <p>ICA30 - Hard Condition of Avocado</p> <p>ICA33 - Movement of Wine grapes</p> <p>ICA56 - Pre-harvest Baiting and Inspection (ICA56 treated produce is not permitted entry to the Riverland PFA, Western Australia or Tasmania)</p>
Post-harvest treated	<p>Produce which has been treated after harvest. Post-harvest treatments include:</p> <p>ICA-01 - Dipping with Dimethoate (suitable for fruit with inedible skin – except citrus to Western Australia)</p> <p>ICA-02 - Flood Spray with Dimethoate (suitable for fruit with inedible skin – except citrus to Western Australia)</p> <p>ICA-04 - Fumigation with Methyl Bromide</p> <p>ICA-07 - Cold storage</p> <p>ICA-55 - Irradiation Treatment</p>
Secure or Securely	<p>Refer to Secure Conditions section for explanation</p>

## Restrictions

### **What restrictions are imposed upon declaration of a fruit fly outbreak?**

The Lindsay Point outbreak is impacting on commercial growers based within the Riverland PFA. Movement controls on produce are in place. If you are a commercial grower within the fruit fly affected areas, you must ensure your produce meets the requirements of its end destination.

### **How long will the restrictions be in place?**

The time it takes to complete one fruit fly generation plus 28 days or 12 weeks from the last detection, whichever is longest. As a general rule, between 12 weeks and 9 months.

The lifetime of one fruit fly generation will vary depending on the weather and time of year. Affected stakeholders will be notified when the restrictions are lifted, via PIRSA, industry and media. Details on outbreak restrictions can be found on the PIRSA website under Fruit Fly Outbreaks and Detections. If no further detections are made, the quarantine and suspension areas will remain in place until at least 22 December 2019.

### **Do the restrictions apply if not within the Fruit Fly Affected Areas?**

If you are not in the Fruit Fly Affected Areas there are no restrictions on selling your produce domestically (i.e. it can still be certified or moved under the Area Freedom status), however you must ensure that your produce is secured if it is travelling through Fruit Fly Affected Areas. See Secure Conditions for further details.

Produce being exported from unaffected parts of the Riverland PFA will now require PIRSA Area Freedom Certificate (contact the PIRSA Lindsay Point Outbreak Hotline 1800 255 556).

### **Can produce move within the Fruit Fly Affected Areas?**

#### Within the Outbreak Area

Produce cannot be moved within the Outbreak Area without prior approval from PIRSA. Contact the Riverland Outbreak Hotline for further information (1800 255 556).

#### Within the Suspension Area

Produce can move freely within this area only (i.e. from grower to packer whom are both within the Suspension Area). If produce is moved from the Suspension Area into the Outbreak Area (e.g. for packing) it will be considered infested and cannot be moved back out without prior approval from PIRSA.

Produce cannot be moved outside of the Fruit Fly Affected Areas unless it is secure and meets the market access requirements of its end destination.

## **What are Secure Conditions?**

Secure conditions includes:

- Fully enclosed units/pallets in shrink wrapping/netting/plastic wrap so there are no holes greater than 1.6mm diameter, or
- Fully enclosed trucks with no holes greater than 1.6mm, or
- Shipping or storage containers with sealed doors.

Contact the PIRSA Riverland Outbreak Hotline 1800 255 556 for further information.

## **Secure Movement of Wine grapes for processing**

Wine grapes must be moved securely (e.g. tarp, shade cloth with no hole greater than 1.6mm in diameter) or be loaded to no more than within 200mm of bin top. This includes trucks, trailers and bins.

## **What is this going to cost me?**

It depends on the destination market, costs may include:

- Treatment by an approved business (e.g. fumigation or cold storage)
- Packaging and transport under secure conditions
- PIRSA ICA/CA Accreditation.

## **Market access requirements**

### **Can produce grown within Fruit Fly Affected Areas continue to be sold?**

Yes, providing it meets the market access requirements of its end destination.

#### Domestic markets

Current Area Freedom status will be suspended for the Fruit Fly Affected Areas for domestic and international markets, meaning ICA23/ICA32/CA05 will be suspended and growers, packing sheds or treatment facilities will no longer be able to certify under these ICA arrangements.

Produce must be secured before moving out of the Fruit Fly Affected Areas if travelling into other parts of the Riverland Pest Free Area or if required by interstate permit.

Produce from within the Fruit Fly Affected Areas can be sent untreated to non-fruit fly sensitive markets, or to a fruit fly sensitive market if it is treated, labelled, certified and packed/transported securely according to the requirements of the market.

#### International

The Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR) maintains the MICOR website that sets out the requirements that exporters must meet for products and commodities to be accepted by importing countries. [Manual of Importing Country Requirements \(MICOR\)](#)

## What are sensitive and non-sensitive fruit fly markets?

Domestic markets are classified as either sensitive or non-sensitive depending on whether fruit fly is endemic there or not:

<b>Non (Queensland) Fruit Fly Sensitive Markets</b>	<b>(Queensland) Fruit Fly Sensitive Markets</b>
Queensland Northern Territory (excluding Ti Tree) NSW (excluding Sunraysia) Victoria (excluding Sunraysia)	South Australia Tasmania Northern Territory – Ti Tree NSW/Victoria - Sunraysia Western Australia

### Non-Queensland Fruit Fly Sensitive Markets

- Produce will not need to be treated, but it must not be infested with fruit fly larvae. Self-inspection is recommended
- See “Guidelines for Inspection of produce for Non Fruit Fly Sensitive Markets” factsheet.
- Produce will need to be transported securely until it reaches its final destination
- If travelling through Victoria Sunraysia a Inspector’s Direction Certificate (IDC) must accompany each consignment – Contact the PIRSA Riverland Outbreak Hotline 1800 255 556 for further information

### Queensland Fruit Fly Sensitive Market

- A fruit fly treatment will be required. Check market requirements (PIRSA Riverland Outbreak Hotline) for acceptable treatment options
- Produce will need to be securely packaged post-treatment
- Produce will need to be transported securely until it reaches its final destination.

### International Market

The Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR) maintains the MICOR website that sets out the requirements that exporters must meet for products and commodities to be accepted by importing countries.

## What happens to fruit fly host produce picked prior to the declaration?

Fruit picked and packed prior to 4.00pm on Tuesday, 21 May 2019 can still be certified under South Australia’s Fruit Fly Free status (i.e. ICA23), however evidence will need to be maintained that the produce has been kept secure and segregated at all times post-harvest.

PIRSA will need to validate records and produce to ensure that it meets conditions prior to certification i.e. harvest records, packaging, secure storage.

NOTE: If the produce is to be fumigated the pulp temperature must be 17°C at time of treatment. Producers must check the treatment facilities availability/capability of storing fruit in approved secure conditions while pulp temperature is being reached.

## **Movement of produce**

### **Can produce grown within the Fruit Fly Affected Areas be sent outside the Fruit Fly Affected Areas to be packed?**

Untreated produce will not be permitted to be moved out of the Fruit Fly Affected Areas to other parts of South Australia for packing. All produce grown within the Fruit Fly Affected Areas can only be packed in other parts of South Australia if it has been treated, certified, labelled and securely packed/transported under an approved fruit fly mitigation Interstate Certification Assurance (ICA) or as otherwise approved by PIRSA.

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PIRSA will need to validate records and produce to ensure that it meets conditions prior to certification i.e. harvest records, packaging, secure storage.

### **Can produce grown within the Fruit Fly Affected Areas be sent to treatment facilities outside the Riverland PFA i.e. Adelaide for fumigation?**

Produce must be secured prior to leaving the Fruit Fly Affected Areas (refer to the Secure Conditions section). It must be certified under an Inspector's Direction Certificate (IDC) to be securely transported directly to the treatment facility and remain secure until treatment is completed.

NOTE: If the produce is to be fumigated the pulp temperature must be 17°C at time of treatment. Producers must check the treatments facilities availability/capability of storing fruit in approved secure conditions while pulp temperature is being reached.

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### **Can produce grown within the Fruit Fly Affected Areas be sent to a wholesaler/Distribution Centre within Adelaide?**

Produce must be treated, certified and securely packed/transported under an acceptable fruit fly treatment prior to departing the Fruit Fly Affected Areas. Examples of acceptable treatments include:

ICA01	Dipping with Dimethoate (suitable for fruit with inedible skin)
ICA02	Flood spray with Dimethoate (suitable for fruit with inedible skin)
ICA04	Fumigation
ICA07	Cold Storage
ICA21	Pre-harvest Treatment and Inspection
ICA56	Emergency Pre-harvest Baiting and Inspection (NOTE: ICA56 produce is not permitted to return to Riverland PFA)

### **Can produce grown within the Fruit Fly Affected Areas be sent to Melbourne, Sydney or Brisbane?**

Yes, these markets are non-fruit fly sensitive markets that do not require produce to be treated, however it must be securely packed/transported prior to leaving the Fruit Fly Affected Areas. Produce should also be checked for signs of fruit fly infestation as it is a legislative requirement of all markets for imported produce to be fruit fly free.

### **Can a wholesaler/retailer within the Fruit Fly Affected Areas sell produce supplied from a grower/packer within the Fruit Fly Affected Areas?**

Yes, providing the produce has been treated (except with ICA56), certified, labelled and securely packed under an approved fruit fly mitigation ICA.

NOTE: if certified under ICA56, the produce will not be permitted to be unloaded or sold in the Riverland PFA.

### **Can a wholesaler/packer outside the Fruit Fly Affected Areas supply to retailers within the Fruit Fly Affected Areas?**

Yes, providing the produce is secure prior to entering the Fruit Fly Affected Areas and remains secure at all times (i.e. not displayed in the open environment). Retailers (excludes roadside sellers – refer to roadside seller FAQ) inside the Fruit Fly Affected Areas should contact PIRSA Riverland Outbreak Hotline on 1800 255 556 for restrictions on displaying produce for sale.

### **Can produce grown outside the Fruit Fly Affected Areas be sent to a packer within the Fruit Fly Affected Areas?**

Yes, however once it enters the Fruit Fly Affected Areas it will be considered infested and must be handled the same as produce grown within the area (i.e. treated, labelled, certified and securely packaged/transported).

### **Can a packer outside the Fruit Fly Affected Areas pack produce grown from within and from outside the Fruit Fly Affected Areas?**

Produce from within the Fruit Fly Affected Areas must be treated, certified, labelled and secured prior to leaving Fruit Fly Affected Areas. This produce must not be packed under ICA23 and

further restrictions also apply for re-packing (contact the PIRSA Riverland Outbreak Hotline 1800 255 556).

## Non-commercial fruit

**Can produce grown within the Fruit Fly Affected Areas be sold at markets/roadside stalls in parts of South Australia (outside the PFA), and then return to the Riverland with unsold produce?**

Produce must have been treated, certified, labelled and securely packed under an approved fruit fly mitigation ICA prior to leaving the Fruit Fly Affected Areas. An Inspector's Direction Certificate (IDC) will also be required that will outline the restrictions of movement and conditions of sale/display.

NOTE: ICA56 produce will not be permitted to be unloaded or sold in the Riverland PFA.

**Can road side stalls continue to operate within the Fruit Fly Affected Areas?**

Within the 1.5km Outbreak Area

No.

Within the 15km Suspension Area

Yes, however the produce will need to be treated, certified, labelled and securely packed at all times under an approved fruit fly mitigation ICA.

NOTE: ICA56 produce will not be permitted to be unloaded or sold in the Riverland PFA.

## Riverland Pest Free Area

**Why is PIRSA Biosecurity SA involved in an outbreak in Victoria and why is part of the Riverland PFA in Victoria?**

The Riverland PFA was established as part of what was then a tri-state market access arrangement for fruit fly freedom, which also included the recognition of areas in NSW and Victoria as being free of the pest. Queensland fruit fly has since become endemic in NSW and Victoria, with neither state maintaining areas free of the pest.

The Riverland PFA (which includes Lindsay Point) has been recognised as a single management unit in formal agreements with export markets. Events in the Victorian part of the PFA have potential to impact the status of the wider Riverland PFA in the eyes of domestic and international markets. As such South Australia needs to maintain fruit fly freedom in this part of the PFA.

In 2018, South Australia and Victoria entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to address the need for South Australia to manage parts of the Riverland PFA in Victoria. This MoU has provided the framework for PIRSA Biosecurity SA and Agriculture Victoria to respond



to this current outbreak, with PIRSA taking the lead in collaboration with Victoria. Victoria has been very responsive in providing support to help manage the outbreak.

Responding to this outbreak in accordance with the national Fruit Fly Protocols is a requirement to allow eventual domestic and international reinstatement of pest free status.