

# QUEENSLAND FRUIT FLY COMMUNITY UPDATE

Queensland Fruit Fly (QFF) numbers in the Goulburn Murray Valley (GMV) during January were down on December, with proactive control measures undertaken by growers and the community combined with climatic events responsible for this trend.

## Queensland Fruit Fly Area-Wide Management

The term Area-Wide Management (AWM) refers to a set of activities implemented over an area that keeps QFF populations down to acceptably low levels. This means that although QFF may exist in the GMV area, they will not pose an economic threat to fruit and vegetable production either commercially or in our backyards.

**Examples of AWM activities include:**

### **PUBLIC AWARENESS**

The more people know about QFF and how to manage them the quicker the problem can be brought under control.

### **FRUIT FLY HOST PLANT REMOVAL**

GMV Councils offer a free tree-removal service, with application forms available at customer service centres. Fewer unmanaged fruit trees mean less breeding areas for QFF.

### **FRUIT REMOVAL**

If you cannot remove unwanted or unmanaged trees—remove the fruit before the fruit is attractive to QFF.

### **BAITING**

Baiting is one of the best control strategies. There are several types and brands with official approval for usage. See your Fruit Fly Co-ordinator or your local nursery or home garden retailer for further information.

### **MONITORING WITH TRAPS**

By having monitoring traps on your property you are able to identify new QFF in or near to your garden or orchard.

### **CONTROL WITH TRAPS AND PADS**

There has been some success with using large numbers of traps (fruit fly lures and toxicants are enclosed inside a container with entry holes and hung in trees) and pads (lures and toxicants without the container) as a form of QFF control.

### **PESTICIDE APPLICATION**

If in doubt, contact the Australian Pesticide and Veterinary Medicines Authority or your local nursery or home garden retailer to ensure you have the correct product to meet your needs.

### **EXCLUSION NETTING**

One of the best methods for QFF control in home gardens is exclusion netting.

### **CORRECT DISPOSAL OF UNWANTED FRUIT**

Unwanted fruit can still be a QFF threat even when it has fallen to the ground or is still on the tree and left hanging after the rest of the crop has been harvested.

### **ORCHARD/GARDEN HYGIENE**

Ensuring you do not have residual fruit left over after harvest significantly reduces the number of QFF moving on to the next crop.

For more information on QFF control, collect an information pack from your Council's Customer Service Centre.

*Funded by the Victorian Government's Managing Fruit Fly Regional Grants Program*

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ON US!**  
Let's stop Queensland  
Fruit Fly



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