

## HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF QUEENSLAND FRUIT FLY

Biosecurity New Zealand is carrying out a programme to see if there are more Queensland fruit flies in your neighbourhood and we need your help.

This brochure explains the baiting we're using to attract and kill adult fruit flies, particularly the female flies.

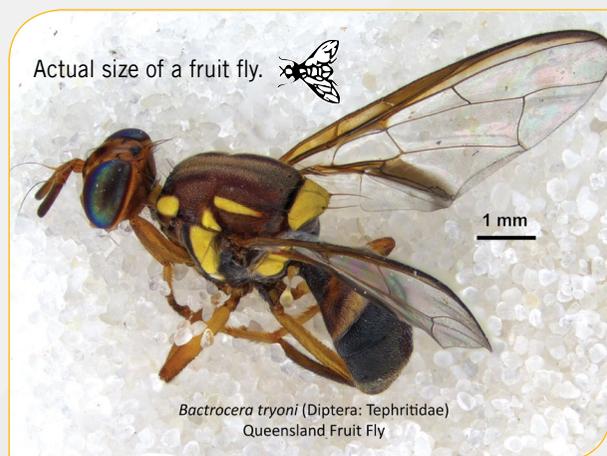
If you have further questions or want to speak to someone, please call **0800 80 99 66** or email [fruitfly@asurequality.com](mailto:fruitfly@asurequality.com)

### WHY WE NEED TO USE BAITS

The Queensland fruit fly is a major threat to New Zealand horticulture, our economy and to many of the fruit and vegetables people grow at home. We don't want it to establish here.

We have taken every step to make sure the baits used are safe around people and animals.

We apply bait in fruit trees where fruit flies lay their eggs. This is to attract and kill adult fruit flies.



### WHAT ARE THE CHEMICALS BEING USED?

There are two components to the bait: a protein to attract adult fruit flies and a very low concentration of insecticide (either fipronil or spinetoram) to kill the flies. This is similar to the way wasps are trapped and killed in people's backyards.

The baits are highly toxic to fruit flies, but low risk to people and pets. In fact, the amount of fipronil used in bait spray is similar to that in a flea treatment for a large dog. Spinetoram is commonly used in agriculture. Bees are not attracted to the bait.

A small amount (50ml) of bait mixture is applied onto some of the leaves within the shady parts of host trees. We use a low pressure drench gun to ensure the bait placement is well-directed and away from any contact with fruit.

### HOW MANY TIMES WILL MY PROPERTY NEED TO BE TREATED?

After the first application, we will return once more in the next 7 days to reapply bait and then every seven days from then on for as long as the Controlled Area Notice remains in place. If it rains, we may need to do this more often.

### DO I HAVE A CHOICE ABOUT MY PROPERTY BEING TREATED?

We understand there may be concerns, but it's important we destroy all life stages of the fruit fly. We have legal powers under the Biosecurity Act 1993 to carry out this operation. The treatments have been chosen for both their safety and effectiveness. If you have further questions and want to speak to someone, please contact us on **0800 80 99 66** or email [fruitfly@asurequality.com](mailto:fruitfly@asurequality.com)

### CAN I EAT FRUIT OR VEGETABLES THAT HAVE BEEN, OR ARE NEAR AREAS, WHERE BAIT HAS BEEN USED?

The bait (fipronil or spinetoram) treatment we are using is being applied using the product manufacturer's directions. The application method (a low pressure drench gun) is designed to minimise the chance of fruit on trees and other plants in gardens coming into contact with the bait mixture.

If the bait mixture contacts any fruit, our staff will remove it from the tree and safely dispose of it. Unfortunately for dense trees, like feijoa, this might mean removing a lot of fruit. As a safety precaution, we recommend **not eating fruit and leaves from trees that have been treated.**

Vegetables in your garden will be safe to eat. We will not be using bait on vegetables. As a good food safety practice we recommend you wash any fresh fruit or vegetables with cold tap water before eating.

When disposing of any fruit or vegetables, please use the Biosecurity New Zealand amnesty bins provided. If you have any concerns call us on **0800 80 99 66.**

### WILL THIS OPERATION AFFECT MY HEALTH?

The bait being used in this programme is not expected to cause any health issues. However, if you feel you or a family member are experiencing health concerns, you should **IMMEDIATELY SEEK ADVICE FROM YOUR DOCTOR**, or call the National Poisons centre on **0800 764 766.**

For further information on the outlined bait used in this fruit fly response, please visit [www.biosecurity.govt.nz/fruitfly](http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/fruitfly).

**If you see signs of Queensland fruit fly call 0800 80 99 66**

## COMPENSATION

If you suffer financial loss as a result of the baiting, you may be entitled to apply for compensation.

For information or a compensation claim form, please contact our Compensation coordinator either:

- by phone **0800 00 83 33**
- by email: **compensationcoordinator@mpi.govt.nz**
- or visit: **www.biosecurity.govt.nz/biosecurity-compensation**

Please note that Biosecurity New Zealand is unable to provide legal or business advice to claimants.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you have further questions and want to speak to someone, please call **0800 80 99 66** or email **fruitfly@asurequality.com**

Thank you for continuing support as we work to eradicate this biosecurity pest. We can't do it without you.



**Biosecurity New Zealand**

Ministry for Primary Industries  
Manatū Ahu Matua

**Biosecurity New Zealand**

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**www.biosecurity.govt.nz/fruitfly**

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**New Zealand Government**



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BIOSECURITY 2025

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