

FRUIT FLY TRAPS:

Hosting traps on your property



The Tasmanian fruit fly permanent trapping network consists of over 1,000 traps designed to attract and kill fruit flies for surveillance purposes. The trap network covers all locations where interstate travellers arrive, locations where interstate fresh fruit and vegetables are deconsolidated, high risk urban areas, and most commercial fruit growing areas of the State

Why do we have fruit fly traps in Tasmania?

Keeping Tasmania free from fruit flies is very important. Fruit flies can physically damage our fruit and some vegetables. A fruit fly incursion has the potential to significantly restrict trade of fresh Tasmanian fruit into valuable markets in Australia and overseas. Ensuring fruit flies are not present in Tasmania protects the fruit growing industry, as well as the environment and community assets such as private and community gardens. If left unchecked, the presence of fruit fly in Tasmania would have negative effects for our whole state economy.

Fruit fly traps are used to detect the presence of the pest in a particular area. Tasmania maintains a permanent network of over 1,000 traps throughout Tasmania. These are used to demonstrate pest freedom to international markets and to provide an early warning if a pest incursion occurs. Early detection decreases the cost and effort to eradicate the pest.

How do the traps work and what is inside them?

Traps are normally hung within the canopy of host trees or broad-leaved trees, about 1.5-2 m above the ground, or lower in crops such as trellised grapes. The fruit fly traps consist of a clear plastic container with a wick (cotton pad) suspended from wire inside. The wick is impregnated with a

fruit fly attractant and a pesticide. Some traps will also have a small plastic case containing a cube hanging alongside the wick, which contains the pesticide. Fruit flies are attracted to the trap from up to 500 metres away and are killed upon entering the trap.

Different attractants are used for specific fruit fly species, so you may have more than one trap on your property. The pesticide used will either be Dichlorvos or Maldison, dependent on the target fruit fly. The traps have a label on them that tells you exactly what is in them and what species of fruit fly they attract. If you'd like any further information about the chemicals used, please contact Biosecurity Tasmania.

The pesticide contained within each wick is poisonous if it is swallowed and can cause irritation to the eyes if touched. Please do not handle the trap at all and if there is any issue, contact us or the Poisons Information Centre on 13 11 26. They will also need to know the information that is contained on the label.



FRUIT FLY TRAPS: Hosting traps on your property

Should I have traps on my property if I have children or pets?

It really depends on your situation. We place the traps in areas out of reach of children and pets in normal circumstances. If your pets or children are likely to be curious and interfere with the trap, it may not be advisable for you to have the traps at all or where they can access it. Please discuss with us if you are concerned.

How often will the trap/s get checked and how?

All traps are inspected by Biosecurity Tasmania staff weekly in the warmer months and fortnightly in the cooler months. Trap checks will usually be conducted during normal business hours but could possibly be checked at other times during daylight hours. We try to minimise time taken to inspect the traps and will respect the privacy of the resident or occupant.

Inspection consists of a visual examination of each trap with wicks changed as scheduled. Anything in the trap which resembles a fruit fly is submitted to an entomologist for identification.

What happens if a fruit fly is found in a trap on my property?

If a fly found in a trap is confirmed as a fruit fly, we will contact you to arrange a visit to your property. During the visit, we will examine host produce that may be present, such as fruit on trees or in your compost bin. Our aim will be to try and work out where the fruit fly has come from. We will also visit other properties in the area and install additional traps in the vicinity.

Will the traps attract and kill other insects, like bees or native insects?

The traps use an attractant that is highly specific to male fruit flies. It is very uncommon for other

insects to be caught in the traps, but the occasional deaths of non-target species that happen to enter the trap cannot be ruled out.

Under what circumstances do I need to contact Biosecurity Tasmania about the traps on my property?

Please contact us if:

- You want to have a trap re-located within your property. For example, if you want to remove the tree or branch of a tree where the trap is located;
- If you notice a trap is damaged or missing;
- If you are moving from the property;
- If you would like the trap/s removed permanently from your property;
- If access changes to your property (e.g. if you put a lock on your gate); or
- If you have any concerns or questions.

Who do I contact about the trap on my property?

Contact Biosecurity Tasmania:

Phone: 03 6165 3777 or 1300 368 550

Email: Biosecurity.Tasmania@dpiw.tas.gov.au

For further information about Queensland fruit fly:

<http://dpiw.tas.gov.au/biosecurity-tasmania/plant-biosecurity/pests-and-diseases/queensland-fruit-fly>



Adult Queensland fruit fly (*Bactrocera tryoni*)

Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment

BIOSECURITY TASMANIA

BIOSECURITY OPERATIONS BRANCH



SOUTH: 13 St John's Avenue, New Town TAS 7008

NORTH: PO Box 46 Kings Meadows, TAS 7249

NORTH WEST: PO Box 303 Devonport, TAS 7310

Email: biosecurity.tasmania@dpiwpe.tas.gov.au Website: www.dpiwpe.tas.gov.au/biosecurity

FRUIT FLY TRAP CONSENT FORM

PART A: PROPERTY OWNER/OCCUPIER		
Prefix: <input type="checkbox"/> Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Ms <input type="checkbox"/> Dr <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	First Name:	Surname:
Business name (if applicable):	Position title (if signing on behalf of a Business):	ACN (if a Business property):
PART B: PROPERTY WHERE TRAPS ARE LOCATED		
Business or Property Name (if applicable):		
Physical Address:		
<i>Is the property:</i> <input type="checkbox"/> A private residence <input type="checkbox"/> A business premises <input type="checkbox"/> Council land <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):	<i>If a private residence, do you:</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Own the property <input type="checkbox"/> Rent the property <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):	
PART C: CONTACT DETAILS		
Postal Address (if different to Part B above):		
Phone number/s:	Email:	
Preferred contact method: <input type="checkbox"/> Home/Business phone <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile phone <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Postal		
PART D: CONSENT		
<input type="checkbox"/> I hereby consent to the placement of fruit fly traps on the property referred to in Part B above and for Biosecurity Tasmania officers to enter the property for the purpose of inspecting and maintaining the fruit fly traps.		
Signature:	Name:	Date:

Completed forms can be scanned or photographed and emailed to biosecurity.tasmania@dpiwpe.tas.gov.au or posted to your local Biosecurity Tasmania office at the address at the top of this form.