



## CITRUS ORCHARDS

# Protect your property from fruit fly

**It's vital to protect homesteads,  
vacant lots, rentals and storage sites.**

### Harvest all host fruit

- Continue picking varieties in season.
- Pick fruit on all trees and vines that are ornamental, domestic, legacy or used for windbreaks, shade or boundaries.

### Collect all fallen fruit

- Fruit left on the ground encourages fruit fly. Collect small quantities, secure it in two plastic bags and place it in the red bin.
- For larger quantities or commercial orchards, mulch (shred) all fallen fruit then thinly spread it out to dry in the sun, or chemically treat the soil with Talstar (or similar).

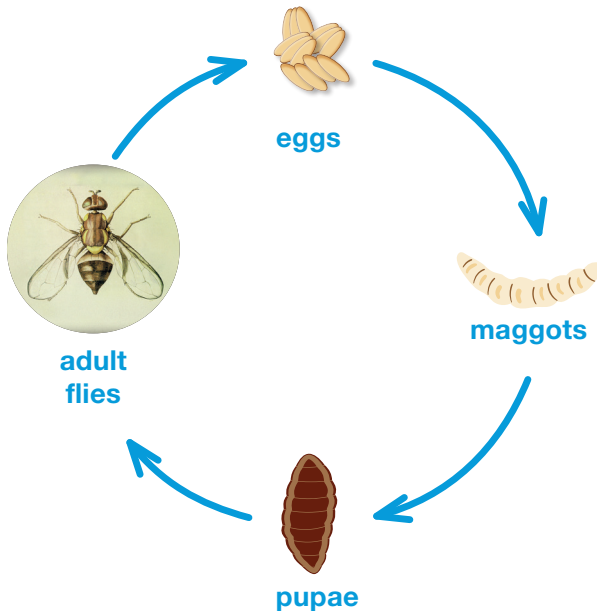
### Keep your property clean

- Remove any unwanted or unused fruit trees or vines, including those which are sick or damaged, poor yielding or the wrong varieties. Include those near pickers' quarters, offices, sheds and other buildings.
- Remove all invasive pest plants that are fruit fly hosts such as prickly pear and olive.
- Regularly slash to keep grasses and weeds down, because fruit fly can live there.
- Encourage your neighbours to maintain good hygiene on their property as well.

### Prune to protect

- Prune or hedge your orchards to avoid overcropping.
- Each year, prune all legacy fruit trees to a manageable height so that excess fruit is not left on branches out of reach.

# Queensland fruit fly life cycle



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| <b>Eggs</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Females sting fruit to lay eggs. Picking excess fruit from trees helps break this stage of the cycle.</li></ul>   |
| <b>Maggots</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Eggs develop into maggots (larvae) and start feeding on the fruit, which rots and falls to the ground.</li></ul>  |
| <b>Pupae</b>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Once fruit is on the ground, maggots can easily bury into the soil where they form a pupal case. That's why it's essential to collect fruit from the ground, mulch (shred) it and thinly spread it out, or chemically treat it.</li></ul> |
| <b>Adult flies</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Males and females emerge from their pupal case, ready to mate. They live in various trees, which is why we use traps and bait in both fruit and non-fruit trees.</li></ul>  |
| <b>Mating</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A female only needs to mate once and can lay hundreds of eggs. Sterile insect technique (SIT) flies now play their role in outbreak areas where wild fly populations are lower.</li></ul>   |
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## We're here to help

For support or to arrange collection of large volumes of fruit waste, please call the Industry Hotline on 1800 255 556.