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# Fruit Flies

## Stakeholder Update #22

20 December 2019

In this update you will find information on the:

- Latest situation
- Movement controls reminder
- Spotlight on trapping
- Compensation
- Timeline

### Latest Situation

On the ground efforts to manage the Queensland fruit fly detections in the Northcote area continue. The Controlled Area Notice which restricts the movement of some fruit and vegetables remains in place, along with extensive trapping.

It is possible the Controlled Area Notice could be lifted if there are no further detections of QFF this summer. We'll update you in more detail on this in our next update in early 2020.

Since the end of baiting on six weeks ago, our operational focus has been on intensive trapping, movement controls, and planning for possible next steps. With summer underway and the upcoming holiday period, Biosecurity New Zealand has been continuing to keep the general public informed regarding movement of green waste and garden waste.

The last detection of Queensland fruit fly was a single male on 15 July. This find took the total number of QFF found in the Northcote area to 10. There has still been no evidence found of larvae, pupae, eggs or female flies, which is very encouraging.

[More information and background is on our website.](#)

The Export Restriction Zone also remains in place. [Find more out about this.](#)

### Movement controls reminder

Just a reminder that the movement controls on home-grown produce are still in place. Please do not move any home-grown whole fruits and vegetables (except for leafy or root vegetables) outside the wider controlled area boundaries. If you want to take fruit fly host material (such as garden waste) out of the controlled area, you will need a movement permit.

Application for movement permits is free. Simply email: [MCPpermitting@asurequality.com](mailto:MCPpermitting@asurequality.com) or phone us: 0800 80 99 66.

By controlling movement of host materials, Biosecurity New Zealand is controlling the potential spread of any Queensland fruit fly that may still be in the area.

## Spotlight on trapping

Trap inspections will continue to be carried out three times a week. MPI's fruit fly surveillance system uses Lynfield traps, which are a type of pheromone lure designed to attract male fruit flies. They consist of a lure-impregnated polymer plug or wafer, and an insecticide-impregnated plastic strip.



Traps are evenly distributed throughout the Northcote area with 20-30 placed per km<sup>2</sup>. All samples collected are sent to Biosecurity New Zealand's Entomology Laboratory for identification.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

There's a lot of information on our website ([www.biosecurity.govt.nz/fruitfly](http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/fruitfly)) or if you would like to speak to someone, please call 0800 80 99 66 or email [info@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:info@mpi.govt.nz).

## Compensation

Anyone who believes they have incurred a loss as a result of actions under the Biosecurity Act or restrictions placed on the movement or disposal of your goods can apply for compensation.

The process to apply will be advised in due course.

[There is general information about compensation under the Biosecurity Act on our website.](#)

## Timeline: Fruit flies found in Auckland, 2019

- **February 14** - Single male Queensland fruit fly located in Devonport, on the North Shore. A Controlled Area Notice is put in place (February 15).
- **February 18** - A different species of fruit fly, a male *facialis*, discovered in Ōtara, south Auckland. A Controlled Area Notice is put in place (February 19).
- **February 20** - Another single male Queensland fruit fly found on the North Shore, this time in Northcote. A Controlled Area Notice is put in place (February 21).
- **February 21** - A second single male *facialis* detected in Ōtara, only 70 metres from the first find.
- **February 23** - Another single Queensland fruit fly found in Northcote.
- **February 28** - A third single male Queensland fruit fly detected in Northcote, 270 metres from where the last was found.
- **March 4** - A fourth male Queensland fruit fly detected in Northcote, approximately 80 metres from where the last was found.
- **March 5** - A third single male *facialis* detected in Ōtara, 630 metres to the North of the last find.
- **March 10** - A fifth single male Queensland fruit fly is found in Northcote, 60 metres from where the last was found.
- **March 14** - A sixth single male Queensland fruit fly is found in Northcote 650 metres south of the original find. The operational response was stepped up to include baiting.
- **March 22** – The Controlled Area Notices for Devonport and Ōtara are lifted after no further fruit flies were detected. Enhanced trapping continues as a precautionary measure.
- **April 12** – The Controlled Area Notice for Northcote is lifted after no further fruit flies were detected. Enhanced trapping continues as a precautionary measure.
- **April 25** – A seventh single male Queensland fruit fly is found in Northcote 460 metres away from where the cluster of male flies were found over a three week period (February 20 – March 14). A Controlled Area Notice is put in place (April 26).
- **May 10** – An eighth single male Queensland fruit fly is found within the Northcote Controlled Area. The CAN is expanded westwards to include the new find.
- **May 29** – A zone restrictions were removed from the area close to Northcote with this area becoming part of the B zone. A zone restrictions are still in place for the area near Birkenhead.
- **May 31** – A ninth single male Queensland fruit fly is found in the current controlled area in Northcote, 80 metres from where the last was found.
- **July 15** – A tenth single male Queensland fruit fly is found in the current controlled area in Northcote, 350 metres from where the last was found.
- **August 19** – Spring baiting and trapping in the controlled area in Northcote begins.
- **November 8** – Spring baiting ends in Northcote. CAN and movement restrictions remain in place, and trapping continues.