FRUIT FLY RISK UPDATE

OCTOBER 2026


Image: Queensland Fruit Fly (QFF)

Fruit flies are considered the greatest biosecurity threat to the kiwifruit industry, as incursions can severely impact where we sell our fruit, which has significant impacts on grower's OGR.

The Queensland Fruit Fly (QFF) has the most market impacts and has the highest risk of entry as it is native to Australia, our closest neighbour.

The 2026/27 high-risk season runs 1 September 2026 - 30 April 2027. There were no exotic fruit fly detections in New Zealand during the latest reporting period of 1 - 30 September 2026.



PREPAREDNESS

New Zealand has a comprehensive fruit fly surveillance programme in place which involves 9,000 pheromone traps checked fortnightly - an increase of 1,122 traps compared with the 7,878 deployed last season.
The trapping network is designed for early detection of breeding populations and uses three different lures which can detect many different fruit flies, including the economically significant QFF, Mediterranean and Oriental fruit flies.

KVH has developed a guide for growers, detailing the likely sequence of events if a fruit fly response was to occur in a kiwifruit growing region. View the guide online at kvh.org.nz (sample on the left).

REPORT THE UNUSUAL
KVH 0800 665 825
BIOSECURITY NEW ZEALAND 0800 80 99 66

CATCH IT SNAP IT REPORT IT