

# NATIONAL FRUIT FLY STRATEGY

## 2020 – 25

**A robust fruit fly management system that supports growth in Australian horticultural production, market access and trade.**

The strategy is a national framework which seeks to bring together governments, industry and research funders to advance fruit fly management in Australia.

We are:

- Dedicated to reducing the risk of exotic fruit fly incursion.
- Working together to provide effective and efficient management of established fruit fly species.
- Delivering a robust national system to manage risk and underpin market access.
- Identifying and monitoring key activities nationally.

**Without a National Fruit Fly Strategy we risk:**

- ▶ Poor capacity to respond to exotic fruit fly threats.
- ▶ Reduced expertise, capacity and coordination across industry and government.
- ▶ Higher costs and fewer tools to manage fruit fly.
- ▶ A fragmented market access position.

The National Fruit Fly Council is tasked with overseeing implementation of the National Fruit Fly Strategy 2020 – 25.

### Objectives

- ▶ **MAINTAIN**  
Australia's freedom from exotic fruit fly
- ▶ **MINIMISE**  
the incidence and spread of fruit fly
- ▶ **IMPLEMENT**  
national systems that support market access
- ▶ **FACILITATE**  
a cooperative and committed national approach to fruit fly management

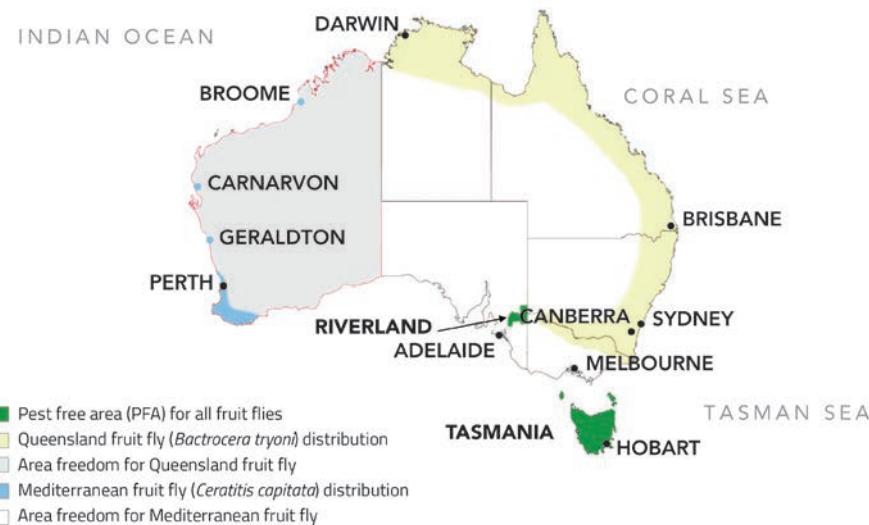
### Priority areas

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| <br><b>Market access</b><br>Develop a framework of policy, legislation and operations that enables market access with the least restrictive trade measures, is legally enforceable and technically justified. | <br><b>Surveillance</b><br>Ensure a nationally consistent surveillance framework that provides clarity around fruit fly distribution, prevalence and control.                          |
| <br><b>Management of established fruit fly</b><br>Build and promote methods to manage established fruit fly species, reduce their impact on production and facilitate access to sensitive markets.            | <br><b>Diagnostics</b><br>Maintain and enhance rapid diagnostic capability and capacity, to support responses to outbreaks or incursions and to confirm area freedom.                  |
| <br><b>Prevention, preparedness and response</b><br>Support the development and resourcing of prevention, preparedness and response measures for incursions or outbreaks.                                     | <br><b>Communication and engagement</b><br>Enable efficient and effective distribution, communication, training and uptake of fruit fly information across a broad range of audiences. |
| <br><b>Research</b><br>Maintain and enhance Australia's fruit fly research capability, capacity and resources with a focus on nationally agreed priorities.   | <br><b>Cooperation</b><br>Maintain and enhance processes that serve to coordinate, progress and improve fruit fly management systems.  |



# A contemporary, viable, cost-effective and coordinated national approach to fruit fly management, with stakeholders committed to the national strategy.

## Queensland fruit fly and Mediterranean fruit fly distributions in Australia



Fruit flies pose a threat to almost half of Australia's \$13 billion horticultural industry.

Image: Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment

## National fruit fly activities include:

- ▶ **Exotic Fruit Flies in the Torres Strait Response Program**  
A jointly funded program to manage the threat of exotic fruit flies to mainland Australia.
- ▶ **Extensive surveillance (trapping) and diagnostic network** to monitor fruit fly presence and absence.
- ▶ **Area-wide management groups** where industry, local government and community work together to manage fruit fly issues in specific areas.
- ▶ **Research programs** to support improved treatment schedules, in-field management, SIT, and knowledge of fruit fly biology and behaviour.
- ▶ **Sterile Insect Technique (SIT)**  
Development of this technology to help eradicate outbreaks and reduce populations.
- ▶ **The National Fruit Fly Strategy** gives Australia a framework for maintaining and coordinating this fruit fly system and managing associated risks.
- ▶ **The National Fruit Fly Council** brings together governments, industry and research providers to monitor and report on this strategy.
- ▶ The Council engages with stakeholders to identify **current and emerging national issues** and advise decision-makers.

## Fruit fly facts

- ▶ Worldwide, fruit flies are **one of the biggest barriers to trade** of fresh fruit and vegetables. Around half of Australia's \$13 billion horticulture industry is potentially affected by fruit fly.
- ▶ Two species of fruit fly of economic importance are established in Australia: **Queensland fruit fly** in eastern parts of Australia and **Mediterranean fruit fly** in western parts of Australia. (See map.)
- ▶ Known fruit fly distribution is the basis of domestic and international market access and **Australia has an extensive surveillance system** for monitoring fruit fly presence or absence.
- ▶ Fruit fly sensitive countries require a **post-harvest treatment** such as cold-disinfestation, irradiation or fumigation before allowing market access, or no treatment for formally recognised Pest Free Areas.
- ▶ Keeping exotic fruit flies, such as oriental fruit fly, out of Australia is a high priority. The **Exotic Fruit Flies in the Torres Strait Response Program** is a jointly funded industry and government program that detects and eradiates exotic flies in this high-risk area before they reach mainland Australia.
- ▶ **The National Fruit Fly Strategy** gives Australia a framework for maintaining and coordinating this fruit fly system and managing associated risks.
- ▶ **The National Fruit Fly Council** brings together governments, industry and research providers to monitor and report on this strategy.
- ▶ The Council engages with stakeholders to identify **current and emerging national issues** and advise decision-makers.

