

Queensland fruit fly – Daclure Cue Lure fruit fly stations

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) is using Daclure® Cue-Lure fruit fly stations as part of its current Queensland fruit fly (Qfly) eradication program.

Daclure® Cue-Lure fruit fly stations are cardboard wafers, approximately 6.5 cm x 4 cm, that are hung in trees to attract and kill some species of male fruit fly.

The wafers are ‘male annihilation technique’ devices that are impregnated with both a powerful male fruit fly attractant, and a toxin that kills males on ingestion and contact.

Daclure Cue-Lure

Daclure® Cue-Lure is a synthetic parapheromone – Cue-Lure [4-(p-acetoxyphenyl)-2- (butanone)] – which is highly effective for the management of some fruit fly species, including the destructive Queensland fruit fly (*Bactrocera tryoni*).

This product attracts male fruit fly over significant distances, and when applied with insecticide helps to deplete male populations and reduce mating – effectively preventing another generation of flies.



Fipronil

Daclure® Cue-Lure stations are impregnated with a minute amount of fipronil which is a broad-spectrum non-systemic insecticide belonging to the phenylpyrazole chemical family.

Fipronil is commonly used in topical flea treatments for pets and is also used for the elimination of other pests such as ants, beetles, cockroaches, fleas, flies, ticks, termites, mole crickets, thrips, rootworms and weevils.

Fruit flies do not detect fipronil and will swarm over the Cue-Lure stations for long periods, ensuring a lethal dose through ingestion and contact. Fipronil is slow acting (one to 4 hours before death), and in that time male fruit fly can transfer lethal quantities of the insecticide to any female flies they come into contact with.



Fipronil – it’s like a flea collar for flies!

From what distance do Daclure® Cue-Lure stations attract Qfly and how long are they effective for?

Daclure® Cue-Lure fruit fly stations attract male fruit flies from 100 to 200 metres away.

The stations are effective for approximately 3 months.

What are they designed for?

The Daclure® Cue-Lure fruit fly stations are designed to suppress male numbers to minimise breeding and are also known as 'male annihilation technique' devices. They are designed to be most effective when used in conjunction with weekly protein bait laced with insecticide, and as part of an area-wide program in a designated area.

Where and how are Daclure® Cue-Lure fruit fly stations placed?

Daclure® Cue-Lure fruit fly stations are placed in the canopies of host and shade trees. Stations are attached to branches out of reach from children and pets, away from direct sunlight and rain. They are deployed at a spacing of approximately 25 m, which equates to 16 per hectare. Most properties will have one station placed in both the front and back yards.

They will be hung in trees using cable ties next to a tag warning that the device should not be interfered with.

Are there any medical risks with the use of fipronil?

This insecticide, while effective against fruit fly, poses low contact toxicity risk to people, pets and other animals (mammals). Although, in low doses, it is toxic to aquatic life.

Exposure to fipronil is unlikely, due to the physical form of the product. It is present in the Daclure® stations in low concentrations and is unlikely to cause any adverse health effects, unless there is high exposure.

If touched, wash affected areas of the body with soap and water. If swallowed – **do not** induce vomiting. Seek medical advice immediately.

Show the label to the Poisons Information Centre – Phone: 13 11 26.

Contact

For general enquiries, contact DPIRD's Pest and Disease Information Service (PaDIS) on 08 9368 3080 or qfly@dpird.wa.gov.au.

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