

Industry update - Queensland fruit fly (Qfly)

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD)'s biosecurity response to eradicate Queensland fruit fly (Qfly) is well underway, after a confirmed detection in the Willagee area in November 2024.

DPIRD's biosecurity response team – based at the State Biosecurity Response Centre in Canning Vale – is undertaking surveillance, baiting and treatment across more than 34,000 residences covering five local government areas.

The team of more than 200 personnel is working closely with local government, Perth Markets, businesses, residents and the broader community towards completing the eradication program as quickly as possible.

Key updates

- **Ongoing surveillance:** As of 12 March 2025, DPIRD field teams have made more than 36,000 property visits and placed traps and lures in trees.
- Trapping: 173 extra traps installed throughout the Corrective Action Zone (Red Zone).
- **Baiting operations:** More than 5700 properties have been baited. More than 11,400 properties visited. DPIRD is using the registered organic fruit fly bait <u>Naturalure®</u> which has consistently proven effective in previous Qfly eradications.
- **Treatment:** 7386 <u>Daclure®</u> Cue-Lure fruit fly stations are deployed to attract and kill male Qfly. This product attracts male fruit fly over significant distances and contain a minute amount of fipronil insecticide that helps to deplete male populations and reduce mating effectively preventing another fly generation.
- **Markets education:** DPIRD continues to liaise with Perth Markets, vendors and buyers to ensure measures that mitigate the risk of Qfly spread are in place. DPIRD inspectors continue to visit weekend farmers markets and supermarkets to ensure host fruit and fruiting vegetables are securely covered with plastic wrap, tarpaulins, hessian, netting or other coverings when entering and remaining in the Red Zone.
- **Communications:** A campaign is underway to raise awareness and encourage support of Quarantine Area requirements, including media, social media, community engagement and regular pop-up information stalls.
- Local government: The response team continues to liaise with local government and provide regular updates and assistance.

Biosecurity and reporting

Reports of suspected Qfly can be made to DPIRD's Pest and Disease Information Service on 9368 3080 or via the MyPestGuide[®] Reporter app or <u>website</u>.

Quarantine Area

Under the Australia's National Fruit Fly Management Protocols, reinstatement of pest area freedom depends on the absence of wild fruit fly adults and larvae in the Quarantine Area.

The current <u>Quarantine Area Notice</u> is in effect until 6 April 2025. This date will need to be extended as long as Qfly continues to be detected.

Residents and businesses must continue to comply with all requirements of the <u>Quarantine Area</u> <u>Notice</u>, including host fruit removal, treatment and movement, until pest area freedom has been achieved and the Quarantine Area Notice has been lifted or expired.

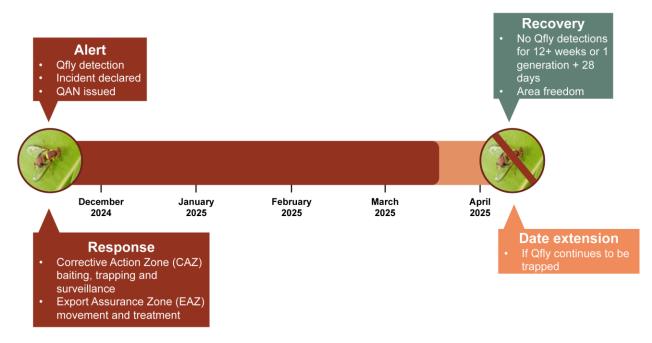
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Protect

Innovate

Grow

Qfly response timeline



More information

More information on Qfly and the biosecurity response, including previous Industry Updates, can be found on the department's website <u>https://www.wa.gov.au/qfly</u>.

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