



ORIENTAL FRUIT FLY



Figure 1: *B. dorsalis* (Oriental fruit fly); adult.

Figure 2: *B. dorsalis* (Oriental Fruit Fly); maggot

Oriental fruit fly (*Bactrocera dorsalis*) is a highly invasive fly species, which poses a significant threat to the fruit industry in South Africa. It is a quarantine pest of Asian origin capable of infesting various commercial fruit crops (400 recorded hosts) and damage levels can be anything up to 100% of unprotected fruit. It was previously described as the Invader fruit fly (*Bactrocera invadens*).

DETECTION AND IDENTIFICATION

Adult *B. dorsalis* is noticeably larger than the common fruit fly with a body length of 8.0 mm. The colour of *B. dorsalis* is very variable, but there are prominent yellow and dark brown to black markings on the thorax. Generally, the abdomen has two horizontal black stripes and a longitudinal median stripe extending from the base of the third segment to the apex of the abdomen.

Fruits (locally grown or samples of fruit imports) should be inspected for puncture marks and any associated necrosis. Suspect fruits should be cut open and checked for larvae. Larval identification is, however, difficult.

STATUS THROUGHOUT SA

In terms of the amendments to the Control Measures in terms of the Agricultural Pests Act, 36 of 1983 as amended in Government Notice No.R. 1271 of 17 November 2017, the areas that are infested by *B. dorsalis* include: Limpopo, Mpumalanga, North West, Gauteng and some parts of KwaZulu-Natal. However, in 2018 the pest was reported to have been sighted in Grabouw in the Western Cape as well as along the Orange River.



Please note that the areas where it is currently absent are vulnerable to point incursions. These areas should be extra vigilant.

It should be noted that should the pest be detected in a farm within the pest free areas, such a farm will be quarantined in terms of an official order and a removal permit will be required to move host material to a pest free area.

ACTION BEING TAKEN

The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (Daff) constantly monitors the status of *B. dorsalis*.

Control measures, including a combination of fruit fly bucket traps (using ME dispenser lure) or use of dichlorvos strip insecticide as well as male annihilation traps (MAT) are applied throughout affected areas.

Infested areas are quarantined in terms of the Agricultural Pests Act, 36 of 1983. Affected parties are served with official orders to restrict movement of host materials from affected areas to non-affected areas.

All traders and transporters of fruit and vegetables that are hosts of *B. dorsalis* must apply to the department for a removal permit if fruit from infested areas are removed or destined to be sold in the areas that are free from the pest.





Natural Resources Base Management

AGRICULTURAL PESTS

WHAT DO I DO IF I GET A *B. DORSALIS* IN A TRAP



- **Notify DAFF or FruitFly Africa**
- **Place specimen in a closed plastic vial and send it to FruitFly Africa for identification.**
- **If confirmed to be *B. dorsalis* - a delimiting survey will be instituted.**
 - A 5km radius of a trap will be placed under quarantine.
 - A "Removal Permit" is required to move fruit from the quarantine area to a non-infested area. Fruit trading may, therefore, continue in compliance with established additional risk mitigation procedures.
 - If no further *B. dorsalis* found for 12 weeks - quarantine lifted and area declared "pest free".
- **If a second *B. dorsalis* is found in the delimited area an eradication programme will be initiated.**
 - Eradication control measures (MAT Blocks, Protein Baits, sanitation) implemented for 8 weeks.
 - Monitor for further 4 weeks – If no further *B. dorsalis* catches the quarantine lifted and area declared "Eradicated".



Agri SA urges all farmers to take note of the potential problem and report infestations to ensure a swift response from the sector (see contacts below).

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