

Guy Barnett MP

Minister for Primary Industries and Water
Minister for Energy
Minister for Resources
Minister for Veterans' Affairs
Liberal Member for Lyons



TASMANIAN GOVERNMENT MEDIA RELEASE

Guy Barnett, Minister for Primary Industries and Water
10 December 2020

Keeping Tassie Fruit Fly Free with new national strategy

Tasmania is free of Queensland fruit fly and we want to keep it that way, with our ongoing efforts strengthened as part of a new 2020-25 National Fruit Fly Strategy.

The new national strategy was recently released by the National Fruit Fly Council, and sets out a sustained, coordinated national approach to fruit fly management.

It provides a framework for ongoing stakeholder cooperation, and has been developed in close collaboration with Australia's horticultural industries, state governments (including Tasmania), the Australian Government, and other research and government bodies.

The strategy outlines the actions required to meet the needs of a diverse range of stakeholders across Australia, in priority areas including: market access, management of established fruit fly, prevention, preparedness and response, research, surveillance, diagnostics, communication and engagement, and cooperation.

Spring and summer are peak times for fruit fly activity on mainland Australia and a time of increased risk for Tasmania.

Good biosecurity is a shared responsibility, and we all need to be vigilant.

Tell-tale signs of fruit fly include live larvae or eggs in the flesh of the fruit or small puncture marks on the skin of the fruit. Fruit fly larvae look similar to blowfly maggots and could potentially be found in fruit that you purchased or from fruit in your backyard.

Anyone who notices any signs of fruit fly is asked to put the fruit in a sealed bag or container and place it in the refrigerator and immediately contact Biosecurity Tasmania on 03 6165 3777. Please DO NOT dispose of the fruit.

A copy of the 2020-25 National Fruit Fly Strategy (NFFS) and 2020-21 implementation plan can be downloaded from: <https://preventfruitfly.com.au/national-coordination/national-fruit-fly-strategy/>

More information on Queensland fruit fly is at www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/fruitfly