



## QUEENSLAND FRUIT FLY

# Season calendar of BACKYARD JOBS

### SPRING

September

- Remove QFF host plants if you are not going to control QFF in your garden
- Design your vegetable garden layout and cropping cycles so that QFF populations don't build up
- Set up traps to monitor for QFF and check traps weekly

October

- Pick and dispose of any excess ripe citrus especially grapefruit and late season oranges
- Pick up and dispose of any fallen loquats
- Spray high risk fruit if appropriate and always follow label instructions

November

*Remember!* In SPRING high risk fruits are late season citrus such as grapefruit and early ripening hosts such as loquats.

### SUMMER

December

- Net your vegetable garden or bag individual fruit
- Pick up fallen fruit everyday
- Check tomatoes for sting marks
- Heat treat fallen and infested fruit and vegetables to kill QFF maggots

January

- Trap and monitor QFF population levels weekly
- Spray high risk fruit if appropriate and always follow label instructions

February

*Remember!* In SUMMER high risks fruits are stonefruit such as cherries, apricots, peaches, nectarines and plums. High risk vegetables are tomatoes, capsicums and chillies.

### AUTUMN

March

- Pick up any fallen fruit to break the QFF lifecycle
- Heat treat fallen and infested fruit to kill QFF maggots

April

- Continue to monitor for QFF and check traps weekly
- Continue to spray high risk fruit if appropriate and always follow label instructions

May

*Remember!* In AUTUMN high risk fruits are pomefruit such as apples, pears and quinces, early citrus such as mandarins, also other fruit such as pomegranates and ornamental fruiting plants such as feijoa (pineapple guava).

### WINTER

June

- Prune fruit trees to a manageable height for ease of fruit picking and netting

July

- Replace unwanted QFF host trees with non-host plants
- Pick up fallen fruit

August

*Remember!* In WINTER the risk of QFF fly is lower but winter fruits can provide a food source for overwintering fruit flies. These include apples, pears, quinces and pomegranates left hanging on trees and ripe winter citrus such as oranges, mandarins and grapefruit.

DPI QFF factsheets for the home gardener are available: [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/pests-weeds/insects/qff](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/pests-weeds/insects/qff)