

# PEST ALERT!

## Please Help Prevent Exotic Fruit-Fly Outbreaks in Florida

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) need your help in preventing and minimizing outbreaks of exotic fruit flies. Fruit flies pose a significant risk to the United States' agricultural and environmental resources. Besides attacking orange and grapefruit trees commonly found in backyards throughout Florida, fruit flies attack more than 250 different varieties of fruits, nuts, and vegetables.



Adult Mediterranean fruit fly.



Apricot infested with fruit-fly larvae.

### Trapping for Fruit Flies

While you were away, an authorized inspector from APHIS' Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) program or FDACS' Division of Plant Industry (DPI) stopped by to request permission to place on your property a trap designed to attract and capture fruit flies. These traps are placed to detect fruit flies before their populations can become established. Early detection provides the best means of preventing large fruit-fly outbreaks that could devastate Florida's ecology, economy, and agriculture. And discovering outbreaks when they are still small allows for control of the pest with minimal impact on affected homeowners and the environment.

Because we hope you will team up with APHIS and FDACS to protect Florida and the United States from these destructive pests, we placed the trap in your absence.

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**United States Department of Agriculture**  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

USDA is an equal employment opportunity provider and employer.

Program Aid No. 1657

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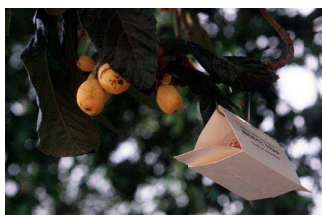
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Please **do not handle this trap**. If you disapprove of the trap's placement on your property, contact the office listed below to have it removed.

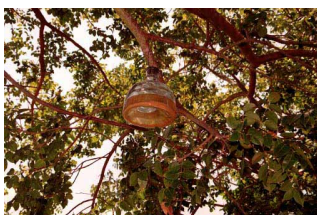
## Trap Categories

Varying in size and shape, as well as the type of lure used, different traps target a wide range of exotic fruit flies. Inspectors may place any of the following trap types on your property:

1. The Jackson trap is white and triangular. A small amount of bait is applied to a wick or placed in a little basket inside the trap body. Jackson traps contain a sticky insert to capture fruit flies, and some of these traps have a small amount of pesticide mixed with the bait.
2. The McPhail trap is a glass or plastic, bell-shaped container that employs either a food-based or synthetic attractant and water to lure and snare fruit flies.
3. The yellow panel trap is a rectangular cardboard trap coated on both sides with a mixture of a sticky substance and a pheromone (sex attractant) bait.



Jackson trap placed in a loquat tree.



McPhail trap.

## Additional Information

If you would like additional information about the fruit-fly safeguarding program or measures you can take to help prevent or minimize the impact of fruit-fly outbreaks, please contact your local PPQ or DPI office.



*Photo credits:* The image of the McPhail trap was taken by APHIS photographer Nolan Lemon. The remaining pictures are APHIS file photos.