



21 February 2015

National Plant Protection Organisation

To Whom It May Concern

Subject: **Isolated Population of Queensland Fruit Flies Detected in Urban Auckland**

On 20 February 2015, further Queensland fruit flies (QFF), *Bactrocera tryoni*, including immature stages (larvae and pupae) were detected in the central region of Auckland city in the North Island, New Zealand, following an initial find of one male QFF in the same location. This now constitutes an isolated population of a pest recently detected in an area, not known to be established, but expected to survive for the immediate future and therefore meets a definition of Incursion as in FAO IPPC ISPM No5. **The rest of New Zealand remains free of all economically significant fruit flies.**

All of these further QFF detections have been found in a small single confined area within the Zone A (200 meters radius) the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) has put in place after a detection of a single male fruit fly we reported to you on 18 February. The affected area is in an urban residential area of central Auckland.

As a result of this development, MPI is stepping up its formal response and in addition to previously introduced measures (increased trapping, surveillance and movement controls) is implementing:

- Insecticide cover spraying of affected host plants and ground spraying of soil directly beneath
- Placing bait in fruiting trees to attract and kill female fruit fly in Zone A (200m of the find) and Zone B (1.5km of the find)

Movement controls of known host fruit have been already introduced for both the A and B zones.

MPI remains confident that it will successfully eradicate the isolated population of fruit fly given the resources and expertise it has at its disposal.

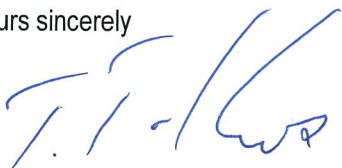
In addition to the response activities aimed at eradicating the isolated QFF population, MPI wishes to inform trading partners that an Export Restriction Zone (ERZ) of 3.5 kilometres radius from all known finds is being introduced. Any host produce grown, packed or stored in this area will not be eligible for export. All host produce entering or transiting the ERZ must be appropriately pest proofed to be eligible for export. The ERZ will be in place until MPI is confident there is no risk for export of fruit fly host material from New Zealand.

MPI confirms that there are no commercial export operations within Zones A and B of the find. MPI will advise potentially affected trading partners should any commercial export operations be identified in the wider ERZ.

MPI is confident that the significant resources directed towards the response activities and the additional phytosanitary measures being put in place will ensure the risk of QFF being present on potential host material exported from New Zealand to any country is effectively managed.

MPI will notify interested parties of any significant new developments, including changes to the monitoring and control actions.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T. Knox', written in a cursive style.

Tim Knox
Director Market Access

cc. Peter Thomson, Director Plant Food and Environment