



Memorandum

Ref:

To: Dr Veronica Herrera, Chief Technical Officer, Director, Diagnostic & Surveillance Services

Cc: David Hutchison, Manager, Response Group, Readiness and Response Services,

From: George Gill, Principal Adviser, GIA Partnerships and Readiness Delivery, Readiness Group
Technical Expert Auckland Queensland Fruit Fly Response

Date: 21 March 2017

Subject: **BACTROCERA TRYONI (QUEENSLAND FRUIT FLY) ERADICATION**

Dear Veronica

This purpose of this memorandum is to retrospectively declare eradication of *Bactrocera tryoni* from New Zealand. The original document (eradication date 4 December 2015) has been mislaid, and has not been able to be found in the Piritahi system. Your decision to declare eradication will be added to the Response Close-Out documentation and forwarded to the Point of Contact for the International Plant Protection Convention – Dr John Hedley to meet the National Reporting Obligations.

BACKGROUND:

A single male Queensland fruit fly (*Bactrocera tryoni*, Q-fly) was reported to the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) Response Group via email at approximately 0855 17 February 2015. The fly was detected in one of the cue lure traps (Trap number: ET24Y) situated at 79 Tuarangi Road, Grey Lynn, Auckland during MPI's Fruit Fly Surveillance Programme. The trap was cleared on 16 February 2015.

The specimen was identified as Queensland fruit fly on 17 February 2015 by MPI entomologists at the MPI Tamaki laboratory. Identification was validated by MPI entomologists as per normal procedures. A heads-up notification was sent to key MPI staff on 17 February 2015 recommending a response be initiated. A level 1 response was initiated as per the MPI Standard, and on 20th February following the capture of a female Q-fly and the detection of Q-fly larvae at the same property a level 2 response was initiated.

A total of 13 males, one female, 165 pupa and 291 larvae of QFF were detected within the A and B zones (last detection 13 March, 2015). Consequently the response was escalated to level 2 as there was sufficient evidence to suggest an isolated breeding population was present.

Using models based upon the known biology of Q-fly and local climatological data it was determined that should no further life stages be detected by 4 December 2015 then eradication will have been successful. During this time (13 March to 4 December 2015) organism management, fruit monitoring, surveillance were conducted and movement controls were maintained in accordance with the MPI Standard: Fruit Fly Response (Field Operations). No adult flies, or other life stages were detected during this time, nor have any Q-fly been detected in the National Fruit Fly Surveillance Programme since 4 December 2015.

CONCLUSION:

Based upon the evidence from surveillance (both response and the national programme), conclusions based upon biology and ecology of Q-fly and the high probability of significant winter mortality it is concluded that *Bactrocera tryoni* (Q-fly, Queensland fruit fly) has been eradicated from New Zealand. Therefore the status of *Bactrocera tryoni* within New Zealand is: **Absent: Pest Eradicated.**

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that you:

1. **Note** the contents of this memorandum; and

Noted

2. **Agree**, based on evidence obtained from surveillance and fruit monitoring that *Bactrocera tryoni* has been eradicated from New Zealand; and

Agreed/Not agreed

George Gill

Dr Veronica Herrera

Principal Adviser
GIA Partnerships & Readiness Delivery
Readiness and Response Services
Operations Branch

Date: 21/3/2017

Chief Technical Officer
Director, Diagnostic & Surveillance Services
Operations Branch

Date: 21/3/2017