Miami-Dade Oriental Fruit Fly Program
Frequently Asked Questions
Updated November 12, 2015

Why is the Oriental fruit fly of concern?
The Oriental fruit fly, one of the world’s most serious exotic fruit flies, is able to infest many different kinds of commodities, attacking over 430 different fruits, vegetables and nuts. The Oriental fruit fly could devastate agriculture. If it becomes established in the continental U.S., it will ravage commercial agriculture and make it difficult and expensive to grow fruits, nuts, and vegetables, both commercially and in backyards. More information about the Oriental fruit fly is available in the FDACS pest alert.

Where have the Oriental fruit flies been found?
There are three areas in Miami-Dade County with detections of Oriental fruit flies: Kendall area with one fly, Redland area with 165 flies, and a site near the Miami airport with one fly.

In the areas with only one fly detected, enhanced trapping has been underway. The Kendall site recently returned to routine trapping after two life cycles of the fly has passed with no additional fly finds.

The Miami airport site will reach the second life cycle around November 15, 2015, and if no additional fly is found, it too will return to routine trapping activities. Statewide, almost 56,000 traps are routinely checked for early detection of fruit flies.

Because of the number of flies found in the Redland area, an eradication program is underway and a quarantine has been established. Maps of these areas are available on the Oriental fruit fly website www.FreshFromFlorida.com/OrientalFruitFly

What is the department doing about this pest?
Commissioner of Agriculture Adam H. Putnam is dedicated to protecting Florida’s $123 billion agriculture industry from invasive pests and disease.

State and federal agricultural officials are mandated to keep the Oriental fruit fly out of this country. Whenever Oriental fruit flies are found in the continental U.S., the pest must be eradicated.
The department, along with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, has been working diligently to eradicate this pest.

Trapping, treatment and regulatory teams are working in areas around the positive finds to limit the impact of the flies.

As part of the eradication program, the department established a quarantine zone, applies treatments surrounding each find, and if the find is within 200 meters of a female fly or larval fly find, removes fruit from host trees. The department is also working with growers, harvesters, packing houses, fruit dealers, transporters and nurseries, among others, to encourage compliance with the quarantine zone's requirements.

What if I am in one of the fruit fly areas?

The cooperation of the public is critical to the success of this eradication program. Please allow state and federal representatives access to your property for survey, treatment and regulatory activities. All state and federal personnel will have proper identification.

Kendall and Miami Trapping Areas
If you are in either of these two areas, you will see trapping teams working in the area.

Redland Eradication Program Area
If you are in this area, you will see trapping, treatment and regulatory teams working in the area.

What activities are involved in the Redland Eradication Program?
Trapping:  
There are currently 852 traps placed around the positive finds in the Redland area. Traps are checked on a daily basis. If no additional flies are found after one life cycle of the fly has passed (November 15, 2015), trapping schedules may be reduced to three times a week. Sign up for daily updates on the Oriental Fruit Fly website.
Treatment:
Treatments for fruit fly finds in the Redland area are underway in a defined area. Treatments are being conducted by Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services personnel. The following types of treatments are being used in the designated treatment zone - male annihilation, foliar spot treatment, soil drench and fruit stripping. Program personnel will have identification. Please see the program map for more information. Treatment methods include:

- **Male Annihilation will continue in the identified treatment zone until eradication is declared.**
  - Adult control, application of a male lure bait is applied every two weeks, for three life cycles.
  - Methyl eugenol bait with an inert thickening agent and Naled insecticide is spot-applied to utility poles, tree trunks, and fences out of the reach of children and pets.
  - Naled (Dibrom) is an organophosphate insecticide, often used for fly control around food processing areas and mosquito control in municipal and rural areas. Please see the Naled QA for more information about the product.

- **Foliar spot treatment is used in a 200-meter area around the positive finds.**
  - Foliar spot treatment – spots of trees in the area are treated with spinosad, an insecticide derived from naturally-occurring soil organism, and is commonly used by organic growers.
  - Please see the spinosad QA for more information about the product.

- **Soil drench is used in the area around positive larval finds.**
  - The soil under host trees with fruit known or suspected to be infested with *Bactrocera* larvae, pupae or a mated female will be treated with a pesticide.
  - Adjacent properties are also treated.
  - Please see the Warrior II (Lambda-Cyhalothrin) QA for more information about the product.

- **Fruit stripping is used on properties within a 200-meter radius around positive finds.**
  - Fruit from host trees are removed so flies have no host material to lay eggs.
  - When a confirmed larval site is located, all preferred host fruit up to 200 meters are removed and placed in double plastic bags and properly disposed.
  - Fruit stripping is necessary when larva is found in infested fruits or vegetables.
What does it mean to be in the quarantine zone?
As a result of fruit fly finds in the Redland area, a 98-square-mile quarantine is in effect. Please see the program map for more information on the quarantine boundaries.

Quarantine Information
- Movement of all host materials including fruits and vegetables in the regulated area is restricted. Do not move any fruits and vegetables off your property.
- Pick up any fallen fruits and vegetables from your yard.
- Double bag any fallen fruit in plastic and place with household garbage. Be sure to securely tie the plastic bags and leave them out for household garbage pickup, not yard waste.
- Businesses handling any of the hosts are required to sign a compliance agreement (this includes grower, packers, lawn maintenance, fruit stands, nurseries, flea markets and mobile vendors). Call for more information about compliance, 1-888-397-1517.
- A certification is in place allowing host materials to move in and out of the quarantine zone, please contact our helpline to sign up, 1-888-397-1517. Businesses, for more information, please see the Grower and Packer Frequently Asked Questions and other documents on the industry website at www.FreshFromFlorida.com/OrientalFruitFly.