

# PLEASE HELP PROTECT YOUR HOMEGROWN PRODUCE

## An invasive pest, called the Caribbean fruit fly, has been found in your area.

The Caribbean fruit fly is an invasive pest that attacks and can ruin over 100 types of crops, including citrus and other fruits, vegetables and berries. The Caribbean fruit fly can damage fruits and vegetables when it lays its eggs under the skin of the produce, where the feeding larvae (maggots) make the fruit unfit for human consumption. A quarantine for the Caribbean fruit fly has recently been established following detection of this invasive pest.

Eliminating populations of the Caribbean fruit fly is critical to ensure residents can continue to grow produce at home, while minimizing the negative impact on agricultural products grown throughout California.

Residents can help by following these guidelines:



- Cooperate with agriculture officials and allow them access to your garden to place traps, inspect plants, conduct necessary treatments or remove potentially infested produce.
- Determine if your property is located within an active quarantine area by visiting [CAFruitFly.com](http://CAFruitFly.com).
- If you are in an established quarantine area:
  - Do not move homegrown fruit, vegetables or soil from your property.
  - Do not compost fruit or vegetables, and avoid putting produce in green waste bins. Instead, double bag and dispose of produce in the regular waste bin, not the green waste bins.
  - Remove mature produce or produce that has fallen to the ground by double bagging and disposing in the regular waste bin, not the green waste bins.
- If you reside outside of a quarantine area, do not move homegrown fruit, vegetables or soil through quarantine areas, across the state, out of state, or across international borders.
  - When entering the United States from another country, avoid bringing agricultural products — including fruits or vegetables. Help us protect our agricultural, natural resources, and unique biodiversity from invasive fruit flies — please Don't Pack a Pest ([www.dontpackapest.com](http://www.dontpackapest.com)) when traveling or mailing/receiving packages.
- Buy fruit trees and vegetable plants from licensed California nurseries, as receiving agricultural goods from uncertified sources can spread invasive pests and diseases. Source your plants locally and responsibly.



**Inspect your garden for signs of invasive fruit flies or maggots and report any findings, fast! Call CDFA at 1-800-491-1899**