

Oriental Fruit Fly Quarantines in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties

What to expect from agriculture officials in your area

Based on recent Oriental fruit fly detections, a quarantine has been established in areas of San Bernardino County, including parts of Redlands, Yucaipa, Highland, and Mentone, as well as parts of Riverside County, including Moreno Valley, Riverside, Calimesa, Beaumont, and the area around Lake Perris.

The quarantine – encompassing approximately 554 square miles in the Inland Empire – prohibits the movement of fruit and vegetables within and outside of the quarantine boundaries.

WHAT TO EXPECT:

Throughout the quarantine area, you may see agriculture officials in your neighborhood placing traps, inspecting plants, conducting necessary treatments, or removing potentially infested produce. If an Oriental fruit fly adult or larvae has been detected on a residential property during any of these activities, a hold notice will be issued to the property owner restricting the movement of any Oriental fruit fly host fruit or vegetables from the property.

Officials conducting residential activities will have a badge indicating their affiliation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and/or a uniform shirt or patch identifying their affiliation with CDFA, State Agriculture, United States Department of Agriculture, your local county agricultural commissioner's office or contractors working with CDFA. Officials will never ask to enter your home.

Trapping

Traps are placed on branches of host trees by agriculture officials in residential neighborhoods to detect and monitor populations of the Oriental fruit fly.

Surveying

Fruit on or near properties where an Oriental fruit fly has been found may be inspected for possible larval infestation by cutting open a small sample of host fruit for further inspection.

- A CDFA Advance Notification of Fruit Cutting will be left at the residence at least 48 hours in advance of the scheduled fruit-cutting date.
- Residents do not have to be present for the fruit cutting.
- If not present, the resident is asked to leave gates unlocked and to secure pets on the date indicated on the treatment notice.
- The surveyor will make contact with the property owner to request access to the yard.
 - If the property owner is not home, the surveyor will return at a later time to initiate contact.
 - If Oriental fruit fly host plants are in the front yard and unfenced, the surveyor may survey trees which are accessible.



Treatment

Residential properties with or near breeding Oriental fruit fly populations will receive treatment to eliminate populations. The treatment protocol for properties with or near breeding populations of the Oriental fruit fly consists of an organic foliar bait spray and host fruit removal.

Organic Foliar Bait Spray

- A CDFA Advance Notification of Organic Foliar Bait Spray will be left at the residence at least 48 hours in advance of the scheduled treatment date.
 - CDFA staff will work with the resident to address special concerns and will schedule appointments for treatment dates and times, if requested.
 - Residents do not have to be present for the treatment.
 - If not present, the resident is asked to leave gates unlocked and to secure pets on the date indicated on the treatment notice.
- On the day of treatment:
 - CDFA staff will knock on the residence door when arriving.
 - CDFA staff will identify suitable ornamental trees and shrubs and Oriental fruit fly hosts for treatment with an organic foliar bait spray. Foliage of host trees, ornamental trees and shrubs will be spot treated with an organic foliar bait spray.
- CDFA will leave a post-treatment notice once they have completed the organic foliar bait spray. This will include information about the treatment and directions for safe consumption of residential fruit.



Host Fruit Removal

Removal of host fruit from residences with or near detections of breeding Oriental fruit fly populations is an effective way to help reduce populations of the Oriental fruit fly.

- A CDFA Advance Notification of Mandatory Fruit Removal will be left at the residence at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled host fruit removal. If for some reason your property needs to be rescheduled, a Fruit Removal Reschedule Notice will be left at the property.
- On the day of host fruit removal:
 - CDFA staff will knock on the residence door when arriving.
 - CDFA staff will identify Oriental fruit fly hosts for the pickers.
 - Pickers will begin work using hands and tools to pick all available fruit from host trees and the ground.
 - The yard will be cleaned of debris including dropped fruit.
- A CDFA Post Notification of Fruit Removal will be provided to the resident or left at the residence. The notification will tell you what parts of your property were visited by the fruit removal crew.

Male Attractant Technique

A male attractant technique will be used to eliminate Oriental fruit fly populations by applying bait stations to utility poles, street trees, and other unpainted surfaces, that lure male flies with a solution that kills the Oriental fruit fly when ingested as they feed at the station.

For more information, call CDFA at 1-800-491-1899. For online information, including the most up-to-date quarantine maps, visit CAFruitFly.com.