Keep the Yarra Valley Fruit Fly FREE

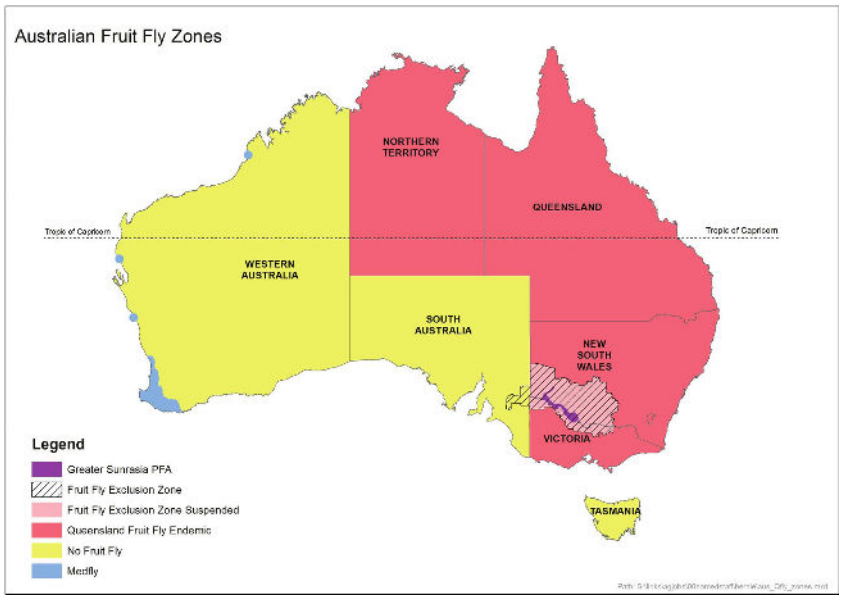
holly's backyard bees

agribusiness YARRA VALLEY

Name:

Extension worksheet

In the videos, Holly discusses the impact of Queensland Fruit Fly (QFF) in the Country, in some of the States of Australia, and in the Yarra Valley.
Victoria used to call QFF an exotic pest. Since 2013, QFF has established itself in Victoria, and is now called an endemic pest.



What is an endemic pest and what is an exotic pest? (Search the resources on the next page to help you if needed)

Looking at the map above, which states of Australia is QFF now endemic?

VIC, NSW and QLD cannot trade fresh fruit into the other states without some form of treatment. Why?

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What could happen to commercial fruit growers if QFF does establish in the Yarra Valley?

Can you list 4 or 5 strategies or interventions that fruit growers (home growers included) can use to prevent and manage QFF?

WEB Resources:

Agribusiness Yarra Valley
www.fruitflyfreeyv.com.au (links to all QFF resources are on this website's "useful links" page)

Agriculture Victoria
https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/biosecurity/pest-insects-and-mites/priority-pest-insects-and-mites/queensland-fruit-fly

FUSE education
http://bels.boxhill.edu.au/ff/

Prevent Fruit Fly
https://preventfruitfly.com.au/

Port Phillip & Westernport Catchment Management Authority
https://www.ppwcma.vic.gov.au/resources/farms2schools- resources/

Managing Queensland Fruit Fly in your home garden PDF (brochure for students and families)
https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/532139/Managing-Queensland-fruit-fly-in-your-home-garden.pdf

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Extension worksheet

Teachers Answer Sheet

In the videos, Holly discusses the impact of Queensland Fruit Fly (QFF) in the Country, in some of the States of Australia, and in the Yarra Valley.
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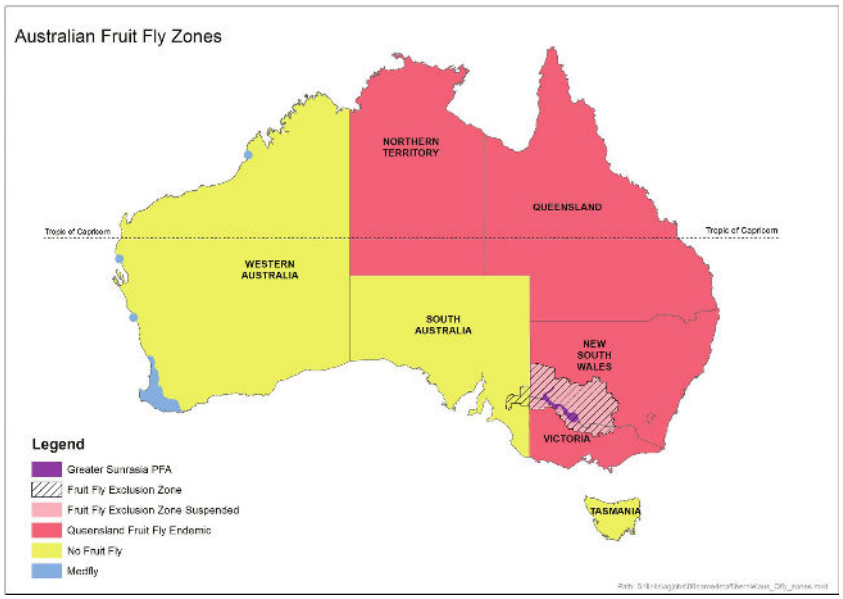

What is an endemic pest and what is an exotic pest? (Search the resources on the next page to help you if needed)

An **endemic pest** is one that is native or naturally occuring in a certain place.
An **exotic pest** is one that does not naturally occur in the area. The area is protected from this pest, usually by the government's Agriculture department.

Extended answer: Biosecurity practices are used to keep the pest out of the area, e.g. fruit and vegetable checks by authorities, fruit and vegetable transport restrictions, monitoring and surveillance tasks, eradication tasks like destroying all infected produce, removing all living host produce and applying targeted chemicals to a specified area.

Looking at the map above, which states of Australia is QFF now endemic?

Queensland, New South Wales, Northern Territory and Victoria.

VIC, NSW and QLD cannot trade fresh fruit into the other states without some form of treatment. Why?

QFF were once exotic pests in Victoria, however they are now endemic to Victoria as they were accidentally introduced and have now become an established pest. Pest-free areas do not want QFF to become endemic to their area and so have strict biosecurity requirements to protect their regions. As a result, host fruits being traded from fruit fly areas need to be treated and certified as QFF free to be traded with pest free areas such as Tasmania, South Australia and Western Australia.

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What could happen to commercial fruit growers if QFF does establish in the Yarra Valley?

- Reduced quality in crop - rotten fruit which would need to be destroyed
- Reduced salability of crop with significant financial loss - no one wants to buy rotten fruit!
- Increased costs of production - costs of management/baits/traps/treatment
- May need to install exclusion netting on crops (further expense)
- Some broad spectrum chemical treatments can be used to kill QFF. It can also kill or damage the good bugs in a crop (i.e. the helpful bugs that eat the damaging bugs). Good bugs are used to help reduce fruit pests and reduce reliance on insecticides.

Can you list 4 or 5 strategies or interventions that fruit growers (home growers included) can use to prevent and manage QFF?

- Set-up and regularly inspect QFF traps/lures for surveillance
- Inspect fruit for any signs of QFF damage
- Report any suspect QFF to the YV regional coordinator
- Use exclusion netting on ripening fruits
- Use protein baits as targeted control method
- Pick up fallen fruit regularly to help break the lifecycle
- Dispose of affected fruit correctly - do not compost. Boil or freeze affected fruits before disposing of them
- Consider removing unwanted or unmanaged fruit trees (host plants) to reduce the risk of them becoming infested
- Talk with neighbours, educate and support others to participate in keeping the YV fruit fly free!

WEB Resources:

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