



Questions and Answers: 2022 European Cherry Fruit Fly Survey in New York



What is the European Cherry Fruit Fly (ECFF) survey?

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and New York's State Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYS AGM) are placing approximately 2,000 traps across the Western and Central New York Regions. APHIS and NYS AGM are also placing traps in New York counties outside the ECFF quarantine area that are most at risk for ECFF's spread to determine if there are other locations where the invasive fruit fly is present.

What do the traps look like?

The yellow panel trap is a rectangular cardboard trap coated on both sides with a mixture of a sticky material and a food bait. The traps are about 9 inches long and hang vertically in trees.

Do the traps really catch the fruit flies?

The trap helps detect new infestations and monitor the insect's spread. It is not meant to catch fruit flies as a way to reduce populations.

What is the bait?

The attractant is a food additive called ammonium acetate that lures fruit flies to the coated yellow trap.

How do the traps work?

Adult fruit flies are attracted to the baited trap. If the flies land on the trap, they will get stuck in the non-toxic glue. APHIS services the traps at least every 2 weeks to replace the bait and collect insects.

If a trap is in my area, does that mean ECFF is there?

No. If you see a trap in your community, it does not mean ECFF is present. It just means we are looking for ECFF in your area. The goal of the survey is to determine where the insect is and monitor for potential spread.

What were the results of the 2021 survey in New York?

The 2021 survey found 790 ECFF in 101 trap locations. These results helped guide decisions on trap placement for the 2022 survey.

Where will traps be set this year?

For the 2022 season, surveyors will place traps along the edge of the quarantined areas in North Western New York.

How can I help?

Please allow APHIS and NYS AGM surveyors access to your property to place and check traps. Residents with questions can contact the ECFF program office by calling 1-800-249-2363 or emailing ppq.ecff@usda.gov. Learn more at www.aphis.usda.gov/hungrypests/ecff.

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