



Warning of high counts of Oriental fruit fly in traps in Limpopo

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The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) has warned of high counts of *Bactrocera dorsalis*, the Oriental fruit fly, in the month of April 2021 in their surveillance traps near some fruit production areas in the Limpopo province. In areas where the Oriental fruit fly is present, which includes Limpopo, there is a threshold of between 10 to 12 flies per methyl eugenol (ME) trap per month (equivalent to between 2.5 and 3 flies per trap per week). Higher numbers of flies per trap per week than the above thresholds indicate that control is inadequate and intervention is required. DALRRD informs that exceedance of the threshold range would have consequences for removal permits, which are required for movement of fruit from areas infested with Oriental fruit fly.

Production Unit Codes (PUCs) with catches of Oriental fruit fly averaging 10 or less flies per ME trap per month would be considered safe for removal of fruit out of these units. If catches of Oriental fruit fly exceed 10 flies per ME trap per month in a PUC, (equivalent to over 2.5 flies per ME trap per week), control measures must be intensified. Removal permits will not be granted or will be withdrawn for PUCs with catches of Oriental fruit fly averaging more than 12 flies per ME trap per month (equivalent to over 3 flies per trap per week).

We urge all growers in the northern areas to implement application of the male annihilation technique (MAT) in their fruit fly control programme, which should also include protein bait application (bait sprays and/or bait stations) and orchard sanitation. MAT products should be correctly applied (check product label). If high counts of Oriental fruit fly continue to be experienced, the following actions should be undertaken in citrus orchards:

1. Check date of replacement of MAT products deployed in the orchards.

Replace MAT products if replacement interval has passed.

2. Increase frequency of bait spray applications if bait sprays are being used. If bait stations are being used, add bait sprays to the programme (see warning however about application of ground based sprays to soft citrus before the colour break stage).
3. Increase frequency of removal of dropped fruit on the ground and infested or mechanically damaged fruit on the trees.



Waarskuwing van hoë tellings van Oosterse vrugtevlieg in lokvalle in Limpopo

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Die Departement van Landbou, Grondhervorming en Landelike Ontwikkeling (DALRRD) het 'n waarskuwing uitgereik van hoë tellings van *Bactrocera dorsalis*, die Oosterse vrugtevlieg, in die maand van April 2021 in hul waarnemingslokvalle naby sommige vrugteproduserende areas in die Limpopo provinsie. In areas waar die Oosterse vrugtevlieg teenwoordig is, wat Limpopo insluit, is daar 'n drempelwaarde van tussen 10 tot 12 vlieë per metiel eugenol (ME) lokval per maand (gelykstaande aan tussen 2.5 en 3 vlieë per lokval per week). Hoër getalle vlieë per lokval per week as die bostaande drempelwaardes, dui daarop dat beheer onvoldoende is en dat ingryping vereis word. DALRRD het aangedui dat oorskryding van die drempelwaardereeks gevolge vir verwyderingspermitte kan inhou, wat vereis word vir die beweging van vrugte vanaf areas wat met Oosterse vrugtevlieg besmet is.

Production Unit Codes (PUCs) met vangste van Oosterse vrugtevlieg met 'n gemiddelde van 10 of minder vlieë per ME lokval per maand, sal as veilig beskou word om die vrugte vanuit hierdie eenhede te verwyder. Indien vangste van Oosterse vrugtevlieg 10 vlieë per ME lokval per maand in 'n PUC oorskry (gelykstaande aan meer as 2.5 vlieë per ME lokval per week) moet beheermaatreëls verskerp word. Verwyderingspermitte sal nie toegestaan word nie, of teruggetrek word vir PUCs met vangste van Oosterse vrugtevlieg met 'n gemiddelde van meer as 12 vlieë per ME lokval per maand (gelykstaande aan meer as 3 vlieë per lokval per week).

Ons dring by alle produsente in die noordelike areas aan om toediening van die manlike uitwissingstegniek (MAT) in hul vrugtevlieg beheerprogramme te implementeer, wat ook proteïen lokmiddeltoediening (lokmiddelspuitte en/of lokmiddelstasies) en boordsanitasie moet insluit. MAT produkte moet korrek aangewend word (sien die produketiket). Indien hoë tellings van

Oosterse vrugtevlieg voortduur, moet die volgende aksies in sitrusboorde onderneem word:

1. Maak seker oor die datum van vervanging van MAT produkte wat in die boorde uitgesit is. Vervang MAT produkte indien vervangings-interval verby is.
2. Verhoog die frekwensie van lokmiddelspuit toedienings indien lokmiddelspuitte gebruik word, en indien lokmiddelstasies gebruik word, voeg lokmiddelspuitte by die program (sien egter waarskuwing oor toedien van grondgebaseerde spuitte op sagte sitrus vóór die kleurbreukstadium).
3. Verhoog die frekwensie van verwydering van afgevalde vrugte op die grond, en besmette of meganies-beskadigde vrugte op die bome.