



**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**  
Agriculture and Natural Resources

■ UC Master Gardener Program

# The Good, The Bad... And the Bugly!

## Some Common Insects to Know

UC MGP SDC – Class of 2023  
3/14/2023



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# Mexican Fruit Fly

*Anastrepha ludens*



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# Scientific Classification

- **Phylum:** Arthropoda
- **Class:** Insecta
- **Order:** Diptera
- **Family:** Tephritidae
- **Genus and species:**  
*Anastrepha ludens*

- Complete metamorphosis (four life stages) [egg, larva, pupa, and adult.](#)
- Invasive and of Agricultural importance (Mexico -1863)



# Identification

- 1 cm long
- 3 whitish stripes
- V and S wing pattern
- Large ovipositor







Wikipedia  
Tephritidae - Wikipedia



Wikipedia  
Rhagoletis meigenii - Wikipedia



Royal Museum for Central Africa  
African frugivorous flies ...



Difford's Guide  
How to eradicate fruit flies



Entomology and Nematology ...  
oriental fruit fly - Bactrocera dors...



**Figure 3.** Wing of the Caribbean fruit fly, *A. suspensa*. Photo: Plant Industry.



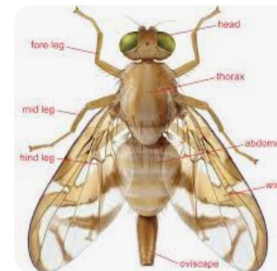
Entomology and Nematology Department ...  
Mexican fruit fly - Anastrepha ludens...



Wikipedia  
Bactrocera tryoni - Wikipedia



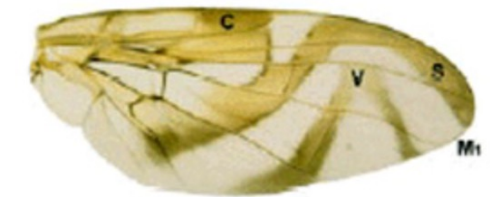
Entomology and Nematology Department - University of ...  
Mediterranean fruit fly - Ceratitis ...



Delta Intkey  
Anastrepha and Toxotrypana - ...



International Pest Control  
fruit fly control strategies ...



**Figure 4.** Wing of the Mexican fruit fly, *A. ludens*. Photo: Plant Industry.



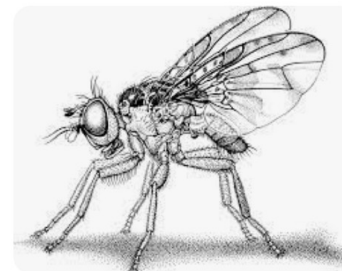
California Department of Food and Agriculture  
Guava Fruit Fly Pest Profile



Entomology and Nematology Department - University of ...  
mango fruit fly - Ceratitis cosyra (Walker)



Myrmecos Blog - WordPress.com  
tephritidae | Myrmecos Blog



ResearchGate  
All fruit flies (Tephritidae) feed upon ...



Alamy  
Fruit flies eggs hi-res stock ...

# Common Lookalikes

# Hosts and Damage

## Agricultural Pest of 50+ fruit species

- Apricot
- Avocado
- Citrus, except sour lime
- Coffee
- Guava
- Most lemons
- Mango
- Nectarine
- Orange
- Passion fruit
- Peach
- Pear
- Persimmon
- Plum
- Pomegranate





# Management

- McPhail Trapping
  - County/State detection program
- Sterile Insect Release Program
  - Federal/International
- Not managed on a small-scale





# What can you do?

1. Don't move or mail fruit residential citrus trees from the quarantine area.
2. Remove all citrus fruit as it ripens as soon possible.
3. Don't leave any ripe fruit hanging on the tree or laying on the ground.
4. Double bag any fruit not eaten or used and properly dispose of it in a trash bin.
5. Don't compost any fruit (or vegetables) from the quarantine area.

MORE INFORMATION IS  
AVAILABLE

CDFA -

[www.cdfa.ca.gov/phpps/](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/phpps/)

CDFA Pest Hotline:

800-491-1899

APHIS/USDA -

[www.aphis.usda.gov](http://www.aphis.usda.gov)



# So...

- "Good" or "Bad"



# Resources

- [https://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/fruit/tropical/mexican\\_fruit\\_fly.htm](https://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/fruit/tropical/mexican_fruit_fly.htm)
- [https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/plant/pdep/target\\_pest\\_disease\\_profiles/mexican\\_ff\\_profile.html](https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/plant/pdep/target_pest_disease_profiles/mexican_ff_profile.html)
- <https://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/terrestrial/invertebrates/mexican-fruit-fly>
- Cool video:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ENh5\\_iQlvIE&t=9s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ENh5_iQlvIE&t=9s)

