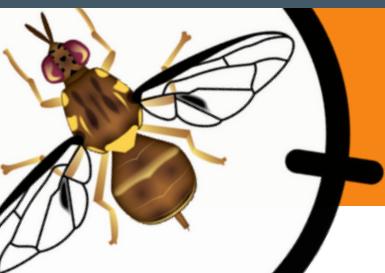


MAKE YOUR OWN QUEENSLAND FRUIT FLY TRAP



These homemade trap and bait recipes take just minutes to make with items you probably already have at home.

The liquid in home-made traps attracts flies into the trap and when the fly can't escape they drop into the liquid and drown.

The liquid will need replacing every 1-2 weeks, especially in hot weather, so it doesn't go off and attract ants. Place at least one trap per tree.

Make the trap

- Start with a plastic bottle (soft drink or similar) with lid.
- Cut two - three holes in the bottle about the size of a 5 cent piece, 10cm from the top.
 - The holes need to be big enough for fruit flies to get in.
 - The reason it's not at the top is because if the fly doesn't drown in the bait, it will fly to the top of the bottle to try to escape.
- Add in the bait from one of the recipes over the page.
- Screw on the lid, then tie twine around the bottle's neck and hang from your trees.



At a glance

- Home-made traps are an inexpensive way to try and control QFF in your garden.
- Traps can be made with items you may have around the house.
- Home-made traps are often less toxic than commercial traps. Many recipes don't contain any chemicals at all with others only having a small amount of cloudy ammonia.
- Use 1-2 traps in and around each tree and replace the baits at least every 1-2 weeks, or if they become full of flies, or the liquid evaporates too quickly.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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P: 03 5022 0327



Orange Juice bait

- One cup fruit juice (with pulp)
- One tablespoon of cloudy ammonia or wheelie bin cleaner (available from supermarkets and hardware stores)
- One drop of dish-washing detergent.



Refill the old traps in a well-ventilated space such as outside and on a solid surface. Credit: GS PFA

Yeast and juice brew

- One litre of long-life fruit juice
 - One litre of water
 - Two tablespoons of sugar
 - Two teaspoons of dry yeast
 - One drop of dish-washing detergent.
- (Courtesy Helen Rudd of Mildura)

Vegemite bait

- Mix up a solution of Vegemite and water - half a teaspoon of Vegemite and water
 - Add a drop of dish-washing detergent.
- (Courtesy Gardening Australia)

Vanilla essence bait

- One litre of water
- One teaspoon of vanilla essence
- Half a cup of brown sugar
- One teaspoon of dish-washing detergent
- Two tablespoons of cloudy ammonia (available from supermarkets and hardware stores)
- One drop of dish-washing detergent.

When to check your trap for fruit flies:

Check traps every week during spring, summer and autumn and then fortnightly during winter or if there is a couple of warm days (around 15°C).

Getting the best result from your traps:

- Make it a habit to refill your traps every 1-2 weeks.
- QFF are still active in Winter so don't forget to keep an eye on your traps over winter and refresh as needed.
- Avoid hanging traps in the sun as they will quickly become hot-houses that repel flies.
- Homemade recipes and traps are effective at drowning flies in the same liquid that attracts them. Unfortunately they may also catch other insects as well as Queensland Fruit Fly.



Home-made trap Credit: GS PFA