

Finding success in fruit fly fight

Gillian and Michael Hogan are proof that you can manage even large gardens to keep out Queensland fruit fly (Qfly).

The couple has more than 30 fruit trees and lots of herbs and vegetables at their property in Red Cliffs.

It has taken time and effort to find the best way to protect their wide variety of produce, but they are now so confident that they are sharing their successful methods with friends and others who are having problems with Qfly.

"There's nothing worse than a beautiful bit of fruit destroyed by fruit fly," Michael said.

"If you've got fruit trees in your garden, it is your responsibility to abide by what

needs to be done to stop fruit fly because it is affecting everybody."

Gillian said it was important for people to keep working on controlling Qfly, get more information and help if they need it, and find ways to make control methods work for them.

"Being older in the garden and bending down underneath the tree and things, we had to find a solution because we found that quite difficult," she said.

"We pulled out the main trees – the nectarine and peach that were copping it every year, and the feijoa.

"We built tunnels with netting for the tomatoes, eggplants and capsicums. It's a perfect solution for us because they are easy to get into and are really successful. We've had fabulous fruit."



The Fruit Fly Murray Valley program is supported by the Victorian Government

For more information call (03) 5022 0327 or visit fruitflymv.com.au

