

# Fruit Fly

Agreed to by the VFF Horticulture Council

7 February 2025

## Policy Statement

### General Principles

1. The VFF believes management of fruit fly in Victoria is a shared responsibility between government, industry and community.
2. The VFF supports there being a statewide strategy for fruit fly management to act as an accord between government, industry and the community. The strategy would define policy positions and the roles of each sector in maintaining market access, management of established fruit fly species, prevention, preparedness and response, research, surveillance, diagnostics, communication and engagement and cooperation.
3. The VFF believes government is responsible for leading and co-ordinating responses to exotic fruit fly species through adequately resourced surveillance, preparedness and response activities.
4. The VFF believes that government is responsible for the management of invasive plants that are a vector for the spread of established Fruit Fly species on public land.
5. The VFF supports industry and government funding area wide management strategies on a cooperative basis.
6. The VFF believes that industry has primary responsibility for management of established Fruit Fly species on-farm.
7. The VFF believes government has a duty to assist communities manage established Fruit Fly species through funding of community facing promotion of information, including how to manage risk in back yard fruit trees.
8. The VFF supports government taking a proactive regulatory approach to dealing with recalcitrant landowners whose actions create fruit fly management risks for neighbours, in the event of established fruit fly species.