

Thresholds/Monitoring/Sampling

Mediterranean Fruit Fly and Apple Maggot Survey in 1994

Michael W. Klaus

Washington State Department of Agriculture, Yakima, WA

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A detection program for medfly and apple maggot is necessary for Washington growers to be able to ship fresh apples to Canada, Arizona, Mexico, China and certain other domestic and foreign markets. The surveys were paid for by a three-quarter of a cent fee on each 100 pounds of fresh apples shipped throughout the year. The WSDA has conducted surveys for various fruit flies since 1980. However, WSDA has never conducted an extensive, statewide, specific survey for medfly because the pest is considered to be able to survive only in tropical or subtropical climates.

On December 8, 1993, an agreement was reached for new phytosanitary requirements on exporting apples from Washington State to the People's Republic of China. As a part of the agreement, participating orchards and packing houses were monitored for medfly by USDA-APHIS approved personnel. WSDA Commodity Inspectors and Plant Services Project Technicians served as the USDA approved personnel.

#### **Materials and Methods**

The apple maggot trapping program was conducted using the standard yellow panel sticky trap baited with ammonium carbonate "superchargers." Traps were placed in Washington counties with commercial apple production. A total of 2,726 AM trap sites were placed and monitored in 1994.

The medfly trapping program was conducted with the standard Jackson trap, baited with Agrisense Magnet Trimedlure 70-0, 2 gram active plugs. Medfly traps were placed and monitored according to the Operational Guidelines for Exporting Apples from Washington State of the United States to the People's Republic of China, May 1994. A total of 3,375 field and packing house trap sites were placed and monitored in 1994.

#### **Results**

The 1994 survey detected no major new infestations of AM. However, a new county record was detected for Snohomish County.

No medflies were detected in any of our traps. Field traps were removed by November 5, 1994. Packing house traps will remain in place throughout the year.

The WSDA and Washington apple industry thank the CDFA and USDA for their assistance in our first medfly survey.