



## PEST ID GUIDE 4 OF 5

# Fruit-Loving Insect Identification Guide

Packhouses, juice plants, breweries and fresh-produce operations attract insects drawn to sugars and fermentation. These pests threaten product quality and export phytosanitary compliance.



### Fruit fly (vinegar fly)

*Drosophila spp.*

#### HOW TO SPOT IT

Tiny (3-4 mm), tan, red-eyed flies around ripe, damaged or fermenting fruit, drains and waste.

#### WHY IT IS A PROBLEM

Breed explosively on damaged produce and residue, contaminating product and equipment. A major issue in packhouses and beverage plants.



### Mediterranean fruit fly

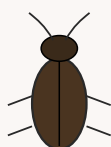
*Ceratitis capitata*

#### HOW TO SPOT IT

Slightly larger than a house fly, patterned yellow-brown wings. Females lay eggs under fruit skin; larvae develop inside.

#### WHY IT IS A PROBLEM

A regulated quarantine pest critical to citrus and deciduous exports. Can trigger phytosanitary rejection of consignments.



### Nitidulid (sap) beetles

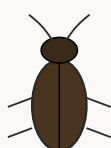
*Nitidulidae*

#### HOW TO SPOT IT

Small (2-4 mm) dark beetles on overripe, split or fermenting fruit. Attracted to sugary decaying material.

#### WHY IT IS A PROBLEM

Contaminate ripe fruit and spread yeasts and moulds that accelerate spoilage. Undermine product quality and shelf life.



### Fermentation moths

*various*

#### HOW TO SPOT IT

Small moths around stored and dried fruit and sugary residues; larvae web together dried product.

#### WHY IT IS A PROBLEM

Contaminate dried fruit with webbing and frass, causing rejection. Indicate storage hygiene and stock-rotation failures.

## Seeing these on your site?

ASC Pest Control designs HACCP-aligned, audit-ready pest programmes for food and commercial facilities.

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