






# Technical Bulletin for: Mexican Fruit Fly

*Anastrepha ludens* (Loew) • Diptera, Tephritidae • ANALUD



<b>DISTRIBUTION</b>	Mexico, Guatemala, Costa Rica. Invasive Species in the U.S.
<b>HOSTS</b>	Citrus (preferred), mango.
<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	
<b>Adult Moth</b>	7-11 mm long, yellow, orange-brown or brown body and wings, wingspan of 6.6-9.0 mm.
<b>Larvae</b>	5.8-12 mm long, white in color throughout.
<b>Eggs</b>	1.37-1.6 mm long, white, spindle-shaped, broad anteriorly, tapering posteriorly.
<b>LIFE HISTORY</b>	Females have a relatively long life spans of up to 11 months. Males live even longer than females, up to 16 months. Female adult <i>A. ludens</i> have a long ovipositor (3.35-4.7 mm) and sheath relative to body size and are capable of laying more than 1,500 eggs in their lifetimes, making <i>A. ludens</i> highly fecund. Larvae feed on the host fruit, usually pupating on the ground but have also been observed to occasionally pupate inside its host fruit.

## MONITORING INFORMATION

<b>LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE &amp; FIELD LIFE</b>	Ammonium Carbonate, Trimethylamine in a plastic pouch and Putrescine on cellulose pad in plastic pouch. Field life 12+ weeks.	
<b>TRAP TO USE</b>	Yellow Card or McPhail Trap	 
<b>MONITORING STRATEGY</b>	In smaller fields, use one trap every 1 to 1 ½ acre. A minimum of two traps should also be used for fields of uneven topography. For larger fields (10 acres or greater) use 1-2 traps per five acres. Traps should be placed at approximately the same height as the crop. Traps should be checked weekly or more frequently, depending on pest population. Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations.	
<b>CULTURAL &amp; PHYSICAL CONTROL</b>	Remove any fruit from the tree with dimples or weeping clear sap as this is a sign that eggs have already been laid in the fruit. Destroy the fruit by feeding it to poultry, immersing it in water, or cooking it in a sealed, black plastic bag in the sun. Keep a container handy in the garden to dispose of infected fruit immediately.	

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