

# Fruit Fly of Guava

## Recognize the problem

The adult guava fruit fly (GFF) has distinctive yellow and black markings on its thorax and abdomen, which may vary between flies. Two vertical yellow markings on the thorax and the dark T-shaped marking on the abdomen differentiate this species of fly from its close relatives. The wings are clear with a continuous costal band. The adult body is around 8.0 mm in length, with wings approximately 7.3 mm in length. The female adult has a tapered ovipositor for depositing eggs in host fruits, while in male adults this ovipositor is notably absent.

Fruit fly infested Guava. (Photo by Anwar Hossain)



## Background

The GFF is a highly invasive pest. It is native to tropical Asia and now has a presence in at least 65 countries. A number of commercially valuable fruits and vegetables are attacked by GFF. Damage occurs when the female lays eggs in the fruit. These eggs hatch into larvae or maggots, which tunnel through the flesh of the fruit, making it unfit for consumption. Organisms that cause decay then enter, leaving the interior of the fruit a rotten mass. GFF is widespread throughout the country.

Ovipositional punctures. (Photo by S.M. Jalaluddin/Sugarcane Research Station, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, India)



## Management

- Cover young fruits (about 2.5 cm in diameter) with clear polyethylene bags that have some needle holes to allow aeration.
- Hand pick and destroy/bury all infested fruits in the soil.
- Apply attract and kill method that comprises of hydrolysed protein baits and methyl eugenol pheromone baits.
- If it is necessary to use pesticides in severe cases, spray fenvalerate (e.g. Fenfen 20EC) or cypermethrin (e.g. Ripcord 10 EC or Cymbush 10 EC) @ 1.0 ml/L water, 2-3 times at 15 days interval. No fruits are to be consumed up to 10 days after spraying.

When using a pesticide, always wear protective clothing and follow the instructions on the product label, such as dosage, timing of application, and pre-harvest interval.

Scientific name(s) > *Bactrocera correcta*

The recommendations in this factsheet are relevant to: Bangladesh



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