Fruit flies are one of the most destructive pests to Hawaii’s agricultural industry and backyard fruits and vegetables, infesting over 400 varieties of fruits and vegetables. Currently, there are four fruit fly species of economic importance in Hawaii. They are: 1) melon fly, 2) Mediterranean fruit fly, 3) Oriental fruit fly, and 4) Malaysian or the Solanaceous fruit fly.

Fruit fly suppression in backyard gardens is as simple as 1, 2, 3, & 4. Simple techniques such as 1) population monitoring, 2) field sanitation, 3) protein bait sprays and 4) male annihilation can help minimize fruit fly infestations and build up.

**Step One: Population Monitoring**

**Know your pests.**

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**Oriental Fruit Fly**

*Bactrocera dorsalis (Hendel)*

**Identification:** Clear wings with black T-shaped mark on the top of the abdomen. Host crops include guava, mango, papaya, loquat, citrus, cherimoya, peppers, tomatoes, etc.

Oriental fruit fly, introduced in 1945, became a major pest of almost every economically important fruit in the Hawaiian Islands. Important host include citrus, guava, mango, peach, and papaya.

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**Attractant Selection**

Monitoring fruit trees attacked by Oriental fruit flies consist of utilizing the male lure, methyl eugenol. Methyl eugenol is a highly attractive male lure and attract flies from great distances. A minimum of 3 monitoring traps per area is recommended.
Create a Trap
Materials Needed:

- Plastic container with cap, cover or lid
- Flexible & strong metal wire
- Plastic fruit fly specific male lure: Methyl eugenol
- Sticky cards or soapy water

A Step by Step Do It Yourself

- Create hole at the top or side of bottle. String wire through (Fig.1).
- Conform wire to make a hook like structure for hanging.
- Add an inner hook for male lure placement (Fig 2).
- Affix wire to bottle.
- Utilize the plastic fruit fly specific male lure: Methyl eugenol (Fig 3).
- Oriental Fruit flies tend to feed on the male lure, methyl eugenol (Fig.4)
- To protect lures, place window screen over wicks to minimize feeding.
- Make medium size holes on the side of the bottle / container.
  This enables the fly to enter the container (Fig. 5).
- Insert a sticky card OR use soapy water on the bottom of trap.
  **SOAPY WATER:** (Fig. 6)
  Place soapy water in the bottom of plastic bottle.
  Flies will drown in the solution. Dispose of dead flies
  on the bottom of the trap monthly and replace
  soapy water solution, as needed.
  **STICKY CARD:** (Fig. 7)
  Flies that are attracted into the bottle by the male
  lure will stick onto the sticky card and die. Replace card
  every month.
- Replace plastic lures every 3-4 months.
- Hang traps in or around fruit trees i.e. citrus, mango, guava.
- Fruit flies caught in traps should be counted, recorded and removed.
- Replace soapy water /sticky cards as they become filled with fruit flies.

HAW-FLYPM
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