Recognizing Western Cherry Fruit Fly *Rhagoletis indifferens*

**Fruit Pest Management Tips**

Cherry fruit fly are monitored with commercial yellow sticky traps baited with lures. Traps out by mid-May and fly activity continues into August. These flies are about 1/5” long and have a distinct banding pattern on the wings.

It is difficult to detect the maggot in fruit until the mature maggot eats its way out of the fruit. A mature maggot is about ¼- 5/16” long. The maggot pupates in soil.

The translucent white maggot is legless without a head capsule, but with visible mouth hooks at the head end and fan-like prothoracic spiracles behind the head.

There is no tolerance for this pest in harvested fruit. Early detection of the fly on sticky traps or maggots in unharvested fruit is ESSENTIAL for pest eradication.
Management:

Regularly updated WSU recommendations on pest management of western cherry fruit fly can be found on line at these websites:

For homeowners-

For commercial producers

Contributors-
- Mike Tobin, No. Yakima Conservation District
- Dr. Wee Yee, USDA-ARS, Wapato
- Jeff Upton, Yakima Co Hort Pest & Disease Board
- Dr. Mike Bush, WSU Extension- Yakima County
- Mike Klaus, WSDA- Yakima

Product names have been used to simplify information; no endorsement is intended. Always read the pesticide label before purchasing and applying pesticide products. WSU Extension programs and employment are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through you local Extension office. Copies of this document may be available at the WSU Yakima County Extension Office, call 509-574-1600.  

Created September 2017