Fruit fly on cherimoya

Anastrepha fraterculus

Adulto *A. fraterculus*(Taina Litwak, Anastrepha and Toxotrypana, USDA APHIS ITP, Bugwood.org)

Prevention

- Avoid planting susceptible varieties in nearby plantations
- Use training, pruning and thinning to control tree vigour, shape and form
- Bag fruits into paper bags when they reach a diameter of between 4 and 6 cm
- Remove and bury weeds and fallen leaves around the plantation
- Harvest fruits early to avoid attack
- Harvest all the fruits, including small and deformed fruits at the end of the season
- Collect the fallen and very small fruits remaining on trees. Bury them at a depth of 30 cm or more, submerge in water or leave them out in the sun
- To kill the larvae and pupae, plough the soil at the base of the trees
- Implement the same fruit fly management practices for other hosts (citrus, guava and mango)

Monitoring

- In trees, set traps (3 L plastic bottles with the base painted yellow and holes of 2 cm in the middle part) with 250 cc of bait. Count adults every week during the fruiting period. Wash and re-bait the traps every 15 days
- Bait: use 50 cc of molasses, 200g of urea, 10 g of borax and 740 ml of water
- The adult fruit fly has a yellow-brown colouring body and pale blue eyes. The wings are transparent with irregular yellow-orange and brown bands
- Symptoms on the fruit: perforations, circular spots and premature ripening
- Monitor 20 fallen fruits for oviposition punctures on the skin of the fruits and cut open them to see small white larvae inside
- Collect also fruits for examination directly from the tree as the larvae might have left the fallen fruits and pupate into the soil
- Apply control measures when 2 flies are found per trap every 15 days

Direct Control

- Place a pheromone trap every three trees to control adults. Use traps all year round, especially during and after the harvest period
- Throughout the whole season, collect the attacked fruits remained on trees or fallen on soil and bury
- Release of parasitoids available in your country as *Aganaspis pelleranoi* or *Diachasmimorpha longicaudata*, or spray entomopathogenic fungus such as *Beauveria bassiana*
- These strategies are more effective on large scale area

Note: Pesticides may be available to control this pest. Please check with the Ministry of Agriculture in your country to find out which pesticides are registered in your country and the local restrictions for their use.

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