## Queensland Fruit Fly Protection with Fruit Fly Netting

A method that has proven extremely effective for excluding Queensland fruit fly in the backyard fruit and vegetable gardening scenario is the use of fruit fly netting.

The netting can be purchased by the metre in sizes to suit the tree or plants that require covering. Suppliers in the Riverina Murrumbidgee Irrigation region are Yenda Producers, MIA Rural and Shady Gum Nursery Narrandera.

Classified as an exclusion method, fruit fly netting has holes that are less than 3mm to inhibit fruit fly entry. The colour is white.

The most effective way for the backyard fruit & vegetable grower to manage Queensland fruit fly is by netting susceptible trees and plants with fruit fly netting combined with bait spraying & Researchers say that it is thought that Queensland fruit fly do not recognise the colour white within the spectrum of the plant world of susceptible host plants.

This management system is an ideal approach to managing Queensland fruit fly on a small scale.

Fruit fly netting can be used in a large scale commercial orchard. It is expected, in time, that this method will be trialled more in commercial orchards in a systems approach with MAT (male annihilation technology) trapping and protein baiting every 7-10 days.

The summer of 2014-2015 saw many crops of backyard tomatoes be destroyed by Queensland fruit fly. A number of backyard growers, including the Riverina Fruit Fly Campaign Coordinator, have

reported great success by using fruit fly netting over tomatoes. This option is also suitable for the organic grower.

**For further information: Riverina Fruit Fly Campaign Coordinator** Tammy Galvin Office of Water Building, Chelmsford Place LEETON NSW 2705 P: 02 6953 0723 M: 0427 221 651 E: <u>tammy.galvin@lls.nsw.gov.au</u>



Home visits are offered for fruit fly identification CONTACT: Local nurseries and agricultural product retailers for Queensland fruit fly control/management products & rates of protein lure & insecticide rates. ALWAYS READ THE LABEL.



**Riverina Biosecurity Incorporated** 

Photo: Fruit fly netting, Source: with permission from www.greenharvest.com.au