

Pest Profile



Photo credit: by Jim Kalisch, University of Nebraska

Common Name: Fruit Fly

Scientific Name: *Drosophila spp.*

Order and Family: Diptera: Drosophilidae

Size and Appearance: The adults are 3-4 mm in length, dull yellow-brown in color, and have dark bands or solid black present on abdomen. Eyes are usually a distinctive bright red and they have 3-segmented antennae with a bristle-like appearance.

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg	< 0.05 mm in length	Females lay about 500 eggs near fermenting food products. Small, white, in clusters.
Larva/Nymph	0.5-5 mm in length depending on instar	Larvae are oval, white, and live in fermenting food products.
Adult	3-4 mm in length	Dull yellow in color, bright red eyes, bristle-like antennae, darken abdomens.
Pupa (if applicable)	4 mm long	Pupate in or near vinegar food source

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Sponging

Host /stored food products: *Drosophila spp.* consume and reproduce near fermenting, rotting foods and other decaying material.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Considered a nuisance pest, they are quite common indoors where fruit has started to go bad. Common in grocery stores, kitchens, breweries, vineyards, etc. Can ruin foods if they reproduce in the source.

References:

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