

Pest Alert

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Division of Plant Industry

A Guava Fruit Fly *Bactrocera correcta* (Bezzi) (Tephritidae)

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INTRODUCTION: Two male guava fruit flies, *Bactrocera correcta* (Bezzi) (Tephritidae), have been captured in fruit fly detection traps in two locations on 27-29 May 2015 in Boynton Beach (Palm Beach County). This is the ninth time this species has been found in Florida: one male was detected in Sarasota (Sarasota County) on 30 July 2013, one male adult was detected in Gotha (Orange County) on 31 August 2011, one male adult as detected in Orlando (Orange County) on 29 February 2008, one male was detected in Homestead (Miami-Dade County) on 24 July 2002, three flies were detected in traps at residences in Pinellas Park (Pinellas County) from 7-9 August 2002, one fly was detected in Apopka (Orange County) on 4 May 2001, one fly was detected in Oviedo (Seminole County) on 1 August 2001, and two flies were captured in the Titusville area (Brevard County) in August 1999.

DISTRIBUTION: Widespread in India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Thailand and Pakistan; also found in Myanmar, Taiwan, and China. And, it was recorded in Bhutan (Drew and Roving 2007). Detected numerous times in California since 1986, but not established.

HOST PLANTS: Recorded hosts include common guava (*Psidium guajava*), mango (*Mangifera indica*), peach (*Prunus persica*), rose-apple (*Syzygium jambos*), sapodilla (*Manilkara zapota*) (Clausen *et al.* 1965; Fletcher 1919; Satoh *et al.* 1985; Shah and Vora 1975 [all from White and Elson-Harris 1992]); Suriname cherry (*Eugenia uniflora*), apricot (*Prunus armeniaca*) (Kapoor 1993); In India, this fly infests "mango, peaches, ... orange, etc. ...," and, as it co-occurs with the much more aggressively breeding *Bactrocera dorsalis* (Oriental fruit fly) and *B. zonata* (peach fruit fly), its full pest potential is poorly known (Kapoor 1993). In Thailand, it frequently attacks common jujube (*Ziziphus jujube*) and tropical almond (*Terminalia catappa*) (White and Elson-Harris 1992).

ADULT IDENTIFICATION: Generally similar to oriental fruit fly, but smaller and with a darker, mostly black thorax. The brown band along the leading edge of the wing has a clear gap before the wing tip (continuous in *B. dorsalis*). The face has a nearly continuous black band below the antennae (separate spots in *B. dorsalis*) (see Weems 1987).

ATTRACTANT: Males are attracted to methyl eugenol. Detection of this and many other fruit flies depends on a widespread grid of baited traps in areas where introductions are likely to occur. Once a fly is detected, the trapping density is greatly increased for several square miles around the detection point. If further flies are detected, an eradication program may be implemented. As methyl eugenol is such a powerful attractant, an insecticide is added to the bait and flies are quickly annihilated.



Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Adam H. Putnam, Commissioner



Bactrocera correcta (Bezzi) - male
Photo credit: Dr. Gary Steck, FDACS/DPI

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