



# MURRAY VALLEY CITRUS BOARD WEEKLY NEWS

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2012

## Queensland Fruit Fly Baiting Program Update

The Department of Primary Industries Victoria has announced that the following areas have been reinstated for domestic market and Thailand, New Zealand, Indonesia, India and European Union export market access only on 9 January 2012.

- Euston
- Gol Gol East
- Merbein
- Merbein East
- Mildura
- Nichols Point
- Robinvale
- Wood Wood

Whilst the Mildura outbreak has closed, growers need to be mindful that Mildura and surrounds is still impacted due to 15km radius of the Buronga and Gol Gol outbreaks. If no more fruit flies are detected these outbreaks may be declared closed in late March.

Due to the later than expected arrival of naturalure the Board has had to change the pick up dates for the second allocation. The revised dates are as follows:

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January – Nangiloc, Colignan and Iraak growers** – Groves Engineering from 2:00pm to 4:00pm  
**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January – Mildura, Merbein, Yelta, Nichols Point, Cardross, Gol Gol and Buronga growers** – MVCB Office from 2.00pm – 4.00pm  
**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January – Ellerslie growers** – Ellerslie Fire Station from 2:00pm to 4:00pm

We remind growers of the importance to treat their property. Growers are required by Victorian and NSW law to undertake eradication treatments if their property is within the defined area.

Those growers inside the 1500 metre radius of an outbreak epicentre which has been declared closed are no longer required by law to apply bait spray. The Board has provided free chemical to treat for QFF and we would urge growers affected to consider the merits of continuing the bait spray until the completion of six weeks. We are in a holiday destination which continues to see a large influx of visitors to the region, many of whom will have travelled through other QFF infested regions and may unintentionally transport QFF with them.

## Crop Forecasting

Growers are reminded to be mindful of MVCB staff moving across designated crop forecasting sites throughout the region. Activity will commence in late December and early January with the first stage of tagging and measuring fruit size and density completed

by the end of January 2012. A preliminary crop forecast will be available in late February.

## MVCB Call for Board Members

The term of office of the current Board will expire on 30 June 2012. Applications are now sought from interested persons for the following part-time positions;

Four positions for citrus growers to represent the interests of citrus growers in the Murray Valley region of New South Wales and Victoria; and

Three positions for persons with expertise that is relevant and useful to the Board's core business (e.g. finance, legal, governance, supply chain, etc) these persons may also be growers.

The term of appointment is expected to be 4 years commencing 1 July 2012 and remuneration is in accordance with Victorian Government guidelines. **Applications, including a resume of qualifications and experience, should reach the Selection Panel by COB 30 January 2012.**

Interviews will be conducted in Mildura in February/March 2012 (or by appointment) by a Selection Panel. The Panel will make recommendations to the Victorian Minister for Agriculture regarding the most suitable candidates.

For expressions of interest or to obtain further information please contact

Tony Moody  
Secretary to the MVCB Selection Panel  
Department of Trade and Investment  
Locked Bag 21  
ORANGE NSW 2800  
<mailto:tony.moody@industry.nsw.gov.au>  
Ph: (02) 6391 3647

For further information on Board activities please visit the Board website [www.mvcitrus.org.au](http://www.mvcitrus.org.au)

## Annual Grower Registration Forms

Growers are reminded to return their annual grower registration form, update planting statistics and tree removal form URGENTLY to the MVCB office. It is vital that statistics be compiled on tree removals to ensure the accuracy of next year's crop forecast, as well as any other changes such as plantings or sale of property. Individual information will be treated as confidential and will only be used in aggregated form. Should you have any queries please contact the Board's office on (03) 5051 0500.

## Office Closure Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January

The Board's office will be closed on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January for Australia Day.