

INTRODUCTION

The BSB Trap pack is designed to monitor for the presence of Banana Spotting Bug (*Amblypelta lutescens*) and NOT its close relative Fruit Spotting Bug (*Amblypelta nitida*). Banana Spotting Bug (BSB) is a major pest throughout QLD and is found in pockets across NT and Far North WA.

If both species are present (as in SE & central QLD), you need to be aware that the FSB *A. nitida* may be doing some damage and won't be found on the trap. The NSW DPI recommend using trap cropping (eg. Murraya Mock Orange hedges) to monitor for *A. nitida*.

The DAF Qld recommend 10 traps/ha for effective aggregation and interception of BSB. Over larger areas, more traps will provide more accurate estimates of pest pressure. The traps have been designed with a special glue and size calibration to catch BSB at a particular level that triggers management thresholds.

IDENTIFICATION

Life stages of Banana Spotting Bug (*Amblypelta lutescens*)



Life stages of Fruit Spotting Bug (*Amblypelta nitida*)



BANANA SPOTTING BUG (BSB) INSTRUCTIONS

TRAP SET-UP

1. Remove lure from satchel and push into the nipple on the underside of the plastic lure receptacle lid and close
2. Remove all cut outs from the corflute trap panel (two circles and rectangle at the top and square in the middle)
3. Push the white lure receptacle into the middle square cut-out. Twist slightly to secure wings by making sure one of the three downward prongs are pushed through to the other side of the panel. Make sure the receptacle is centred evenly on either side of the panel.
4. Select a 1-2 cm diameter thick branch deep inside the canopy at 1.5-2.5m height, untwist the two top lobes on either side of the corflute panel and hang panel on branch.
5. Remove wax paper to expose sticky surfaces on both sides of trap panel.

KEEP LURES IN FREEZER WHEN NOT IN USE



MAINTENANCE OF TRAP

1. Remove all debris and dead bugs from the panel and pop out lure receptacle.
2. Using a new replacement pad remove wax paper from one side of the pad and position onto panel making sure it matches up with the center square hole and slit lines. Do this on both sides of the panel.
3. Replace lure receptacle and peel wax paper to expose new sticky surfaces on both sides. Replace lure and trap after six weeks.

NOTE: If it is difficult to find 1-2 cm branches within the canopy or you feel the panel will be exposed to high winds then we suggest you secure the trap with a plain wire hanger. Cut approx. 1m lengths of 2-3 mm diameter plain wire. Loop the wire down through the side of the corflute board cavity to the bottom of the trap, across the bottom and thread back up the other side, leaving enough wire exposed at the tops on either side to wrap around a branch.

TRAPPING GRID FOR 10 TRAPS

Traps should be hung evenly in a cluster grid pattern in a hot spot area, placing traps at least 40m apart. Traps should also be placed at least 40m away from any known host trees, e.g. Murraya mock orange, fig trees, forest. Sub-grids can be placed in other areas of concern using 4-5 traps at 40m spacing.

MONITORING

Traps should be checked at least every 2 weeks and the surface of the panel cleaned and replaced with new sticky pads. There are enough replacement pads in the 10 TRAP PACK for 6 weeks of monitoring which is when the lure should also be replaced. In avocado and custard apple trees if bug density reaches 0.5 bugs per fortnight (5 bugs for every 10 traps) apply insecticide. When monitoring, you need to know the difference between BSB and Assassin bug nymphs and be aware that the traps won't trap FSB *A. nitida*.

Average No. of Bugs /Trap/fortnight	Number Bugs Per 10 Traps	Fruit Damage in Trap-Trees	Fruit Damage in Non-Trap Trees	Action to take by grower
Less than 0.5	Less than 5	Less than 5%	Less than 1%	Continue to Monitor
0.5 to 1.5	5 to 15	5 to 15%	1 to 2%	Apply Pesticide & Monitor
Above 1.5	Above 15	Above 15%	Above 2%	Apply Pesticide Regularly

MONITORING SOFTWARE - OPENSCOUT

We suggest the use of OpenScout to geotag your traps (for easy setup and relocating), record bug numbers and know when to replace pads or lures. OpenScout also quickly shows you in satellite map view your trap grid layout and where insect pressure is high. This helps with decision making such as spot spraying and where to spray and also reminds you when to replace the lure or pads. OpenScout also reports on cumulative pest numbers across weeks, months and years so that you can build an accurate picture of insect population patterns over time. You can also digitally record scouting trips and pick from insect and disease/disorder ID lists, take photos and geotag these as part of your scouting trip. This provides fast and accurate reports for yourself or clients of total insects and disorders in your crop.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

ORGANIC CROP PROTECTANTS

1956 Dandenong Rd, Clayton VIC 3168 | Telephone: 1800 634 204 (Free Call) | ocp.com.au