

STOP APPLE MAGGOT

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has confirmed the presence of the **apple maggot** (*Rhagoletis pomonella*), a serious pest of apple, in non-commercial host trees in the Fraser Valley, Greater Vancouver, Vancouver Island and Prince George. The Okanagan, Similkameen and Creston valleys of British Columbia remain the only commercial apple-producing regions in North America free of this serious pest.

The CFIA and the B.C. Ministry of Agriculture are seeking the cooperation of all citizens to prevent the spread of this pest from the Lower Mainland and Prince George to the B.C. Interior commercial apple production areas via infested host fruit (apples, crabapples, hawthorn), fruit containers and soil.

What can you do to help prevent the spread of apple maggot?

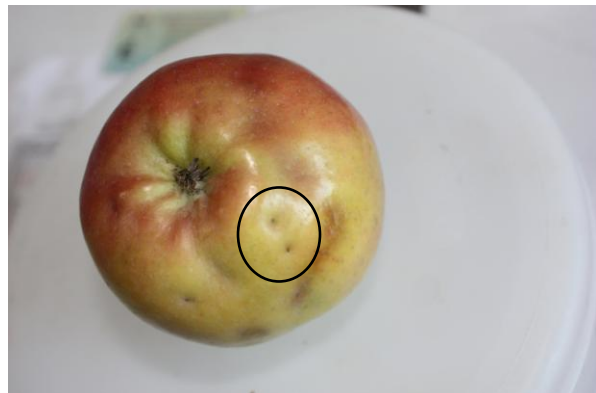
- Do not take any host fruit, fruit bins or other containers used to hold apples out of the Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island or Prince George.
- Do not take plants with garden soil that were grown near host trees out of the Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island or Prince George.
- If you receive fruit from the Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island or Prince George that appears to be infested (see photos below), take it to your nearest garden centre, Master Gardener, CFIA or Ministry of Agriculture office.
- Suspicious fruit can also be sent to the provincial Plant Health Diagnostic Laboratory for a free diagnosis (<http://www.al.gov.bc.ca/cropprot/lab.htm>); phone 1-800-661-9903.
- Do not compost any apples that appear to be infested with apple maggot. Place the fruit in a sealed plastic bag and bury at least 30 cm deep or take it to the local landfill for burial.

Please contact the CFIA at (604) 557-4500 if you are planning to move any host fruit or host trees with soil, or host nursery stock, out of the Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island or Prince George areas.

For more information about the biology, control and regulation of the apple maggot, visit the BC Ministry of Agriculture web page at <http://www.al.gov.bc.ca/cropprot/applemaggot.htm>.



Internal feeding damage by apple maggot.



Apple maggot stings and dimpling on fruit