

North Coast Olive Fruit Fly Life Cycle

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Eggs & larvae

- can be found year-round in fruit on trees & ground
- eggs laid in fruit leave brown spots on fruit
- larvae developing in the summer in fruit pupate & emerge as adults
- in the fall, some larvae leave the fruit & pupate in the soil where they overwinter, while others overwinter in the fruit on trees & pupate in the spring



Damage

- larvae destroy olive fruit pulp
- allow entry of secondary microbes that cause fruit rot
- degrade olive quality
- can cause premature fruit drop



Adult olive fruit fly

- active year-round
- can fly long distances
- females lay eggs in fruit



Generations & Temperatures

- multiple generations occur during summer & fall
- can complete a generation in <30 days when temperatures are 68-86F
- activity thresholds are 60-95F, not very active outside this range
- hot dry conditions reduce population buildup
- no true stages of dormancy