

STOP APPLE MAGGOT

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has found the **apple maggot** (*Rhagoletis pomonella*), a serious pest of apple, in unmanaged host trees (apple, crabapple, hawthorn) in the Abbotsford area.

CFIA and the British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture & Lands (BCMAL) are seeking the cooperation of the public in the Fraser Valley to prevent the spread of this pest from the valley to other parts of British Columbia via infested fruit.

At present, apple maggot has not been found in commercial apple orchards. However, they may be at risk of infestation from nearby infested host trees in backyards and along roadsides.

To prevent spread:

- Do not to take any apples out of the Fraser Valley
- Do not compost any apples that appear to be infested with apple maggot (see photos below). Suspect apples should be buried at least 30 cm deep or taken to the local landfill for burial.
- Submit suspect infected fruit to the BCMAL Plant Diagnostic Lab for identification at no charge

Please contact the CFIA at (604) 557- 4500 if you are planning to move apples, apple trees or other host plants with soil, or nursery stock of apple, crabapple or hawthorn, out of the Abbotsford area.

For more information about the apple maggot, visit the BCMAL web page at <http://www.al.gov.bc.ca/cropprot/applemaggot.htm>. Suspected apple maggot-infested fruit can be sent to the BCMAL Plant Diagnostic Laboratory for free diagnosis. Submission forms are available at <http://www.al.gov.bc.ca/cropprot/lab.htm> or contact the BCMAL Plant Diagnostic Lab.



Internal feeding damage by apple maggot
(Photos courtesy of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada)



External signs of apple maggot infestation in apple



To submit suspected samples, please contact:

Plant Diagnostic Laboratory
Food Safety and Quality Branch
B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Lands
1767 Angus Campbell Road
Abbotsford, B.C. V3G 2M3
Telephone: (604) 556-3003 Toll-Free: 1 (800) 661-9903

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