

**NATIONAL PLAN FOR THE DETECTION, CONTROL
AND ERADICATION OF FRUIT FLIES**

Communication from Colombia

The following communication, dated 14 January 2011, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Colombia.

1. Under the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), the responsibilities of national plant protection organizations include the designation, maintenance and surveillance of pest-free areas and areas of low pest prevalence.
2. The national government, through the Colombian Agricultural Institute (ICA), is in the process of implementing the National Plan for the Detection, Control and Eradication of Fruit Flies.
3. The aim of the National Plan for the Detection, Control and Eradication of Fruit Flies is to improve the phytosanitary conditions for fruit production in Colombia and boost the production capacity for niche markets.
4. The database of Colombia's National Fruit Fly Plan for the period 2000 to 2010 reveals the non-existence of the species *Ceratitis capitata Wiedemann*, the Mediterranean Fruit Fly, and shows a Fly/Trap/Day (FTD) index of zero for the departments of Caldas, Quindío and Risaralda for an altitude above sea level ranging from 500 to 2,700 metres.
5. Specifically in the departments of Caldas, Quindío and Risaralda over the period 2008, 2009 and the first half of 2010, a total of 12,610 readings were taken, on a weekly basis, from 97 traps located along the main routes in each one of the departments, and the FTD index was zero for the Mediterranean Fruit Fly, *Ceratitis capitata Wiedemann*.
6. The fruit fly surveillance system applied to 407 farms producing fresh fruit for export during the period 2008, 2009 and the first half of 2010 revealed an FTD index of zero with respect to the Mediterranean Fruit Fly, for 619 traps in the departments of Caldas, Quindío and Risaralda.
7. By Resolution No. 2896 of 6 September 2010, the ICA recognized the low prevalence status with production sites free of the Mediterranean Fruit Fly *Ceratitis capitata Wiedemann* for the departments of Caldas, Quindío and Risaralda.