

Have you seen the vegetable leafminer?



Vegetable leafminer (*Liriomyza sativae*) is a very small black and yellow fly (1-2 mm in length). Female flies lay eggs inside leaves and stems. Maggots tunnel inside the leaf and make visible tracks (called leaf mines) that get wider as they grow. The easiest way to find vegetable leafminer is to look for the characteristic damage to your plants (refer to pictures). This damage can reduce plant growth, but does not make fruit unsafe to eat.



Our Project

We are a group of partners aiming to help Australia prepare for the arrival of the vegetable leafminer into vegetable, fruit and nursery production areas. Our research will also help areas already affected, such as the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area, manage this pest.

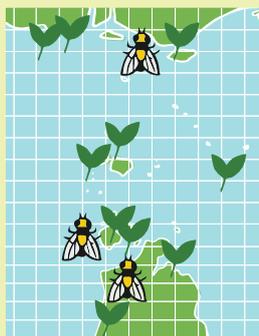
1

We will identify where the flies are using sticky paper to trap them



2

We will make a map of where the flies and their host plants are currently found



3

We will investigate using parasitic wasps to control flies



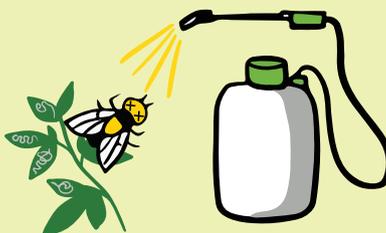
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We will track the pathway of flies entering the Torres Strait and Australia and predict the risk that they spread further



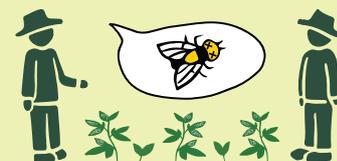
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We will investigate pesticide options to control flies



6

We will work with growers to raise awareness of the pest and its management



If you have any questions about our project, or about vegetable leafminer, please get in touch with:

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Hort Innovation

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