

Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH)

ORGANISM (ORGA)

BCH-ORGA-SCBD-103107-4

LAST UPDATED: 08 AUG 2014

Organism information

Scientific name

Ceratitis capitata

Taxonomic Classification

Kingdom Animalia
Phylum Arthropoda
Class Insecta
Order Diptera
Family Tephritidae
Genus Ceratitis
Species capitata

Common name(s)

Mediterranean fruit fly

EN

CERCA

EN

Type of organism

Insects

Domestication

Wild

Characteristics related to biosafety

Centre(s) of genetic diversity

Centre of origin believed to be the Mediterranean and north African regions.

EN

Habitat range

Medfly has the ability to tolerate cooler climates better than most other species of fruit flies. Some adults may survive up to six months or more under favourable conditions of food (fruit, honeydew, or plant sap), water, and cool temperatures.

EN

Known pathogenicity and/or allergenicity

Ceratitis capitata is a serious pest to many crops. Damage to crops caused by C. capitata

EN

results from:

Oviposition in fruit and soft tissues of vegetative parts of certain plants; Feeding by the larvae; Decomposition of plant tissue by invading secondary microorganisms.

Additional Information

Other relevant website addresses and/or attached documents

? [Ceratitis capitata - Wikipedia](#) (*English*)

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Further Information

Questions about the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety or the operation of the Biosafety Clearing-House may be directed to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

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