

List of crop protection strategies

Table 1: List of crop protection strategies¹

Technique	Method	Success/comments
Netting – full	Netting held firmly in place by a rigid	Very high.
exclusion netting	structure of poles and tensioned cables over the entire orchard.	Method is initially expensive to set up and may be damaged by cyclones, high wind and hail.
Netting – tunnel	Netting that is supported by light frames or	Less successful than full-canopy. Often suitable where full exclusion
netting and	draped directly over trees and vines. Nets	netting is not, due to ease of set up.
throwover netting	are reusable and removed after harvest. See Wildlife Friendly Netting and Drape Net.	Fruit touching the net can be damaged by flying-foxes on the outside of the net.
		Initial outlay may be less expensive than full-exclusion, however set-
		up time must be repeated each year.
Bags	Fruit protection bags placed over fruit.	Reasonably successful. Has been used on banana crops.
		Labour intensive and costly. Not feasible for most commercial
		farmers.
Sound	Replaying recorded sounds including loud	Reports of medium success in the short-term. However flying-foxes
	sudden noises, natural predator calls or	may become accustomed to the sound if no danger presents.
	sonic sounds.	May be more successful if combined with other methods such as
		light and radar detection systems (e.g. – Phoenix Wailer).
		Also more successful if sound, light and scaring options localities are rotated around the property (avoiding deterrent desensitisation).

Technique	Method	Success/comments
Lights	Flashing strobe lights and bright light grids over orchards; long wavelength lasers.	Medium success in the short-term. However flying-foxes can become accustomed to the sound if no danger presents.
		May be more successful if combined with other methods.
		Also more successful if sound, light and scaring options localities are rotated around the property (avoiding deterrent desensitisation).

¹ Based on the Queensland Government's Flying-fox Control Methods Research Findings

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