African fig fly *(Zaprionus indianus)*

Adult dorsal view

Adult lateral view

Other common name:
Fig fruit fly.

Distribution: Native to Africa. Introduced and established in several countries of Asia, South and Central America. In the U.S.: in many eastern and southern states, including California.

Field ID: Adult (about 3.5 mm long) has reddish-brown head and thorax and yellow abdomen. Two white stripes on the thorax are confined by black stripes. Also, each white stripe on the head has a single bordering black stripe. Eyes are red.

Larvae with white, cylindrical bodies tapered anteriorly and elevated posterior spiracles.

Larvae in fig

Larvae around fig ostiole

Hosts and damage:
Polyphagous species recorded on over 70 host plants, including avocado, cashew, citrus, blackberry, date, fig, grape, guava, loquat, longan, peach, persimmon, pomegranate, raspberry and others.

Z. indianus does not attack immature or undamaged fruit. The fig, its primary host, is an exception where adult flies often oviposit around the ostiole from where larvae reach the interior of the fruit.

In new areas populations of *Z. indianus* can build up quickly.