

# KNOW YOUR ENEMY

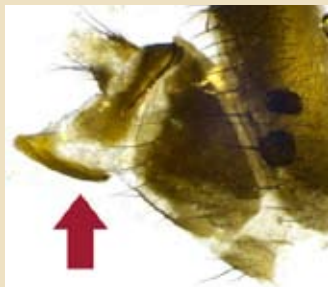
## Spotted Wing Drosophila vs. Other Drosophila

Producers of small fruits and other crops in Washington State are rightly concerned about the presence of a new type of “vinegar fly” (*Drosophila*) in our region. The pest, known as spotted wing drosophila (*Drosophila suzukii*) is potentially onerous because of its ability to deposit eggs in and feed on ripening fruit. Other *Drosophila* are less worrisome because they feed on overripe/rotten fruit, sparing damage to ripening crops. Use these 3 steps to determine whether a specimen is SWD.

# 2

### Is it a female SWD?

The female spotted wing drosophila are more difficult to identify than the males, not having dark spots on their wings. Their most distinguishing characteristic is their ovipositor—it is longer than those of other *Drosophila* and is deeply serrated. The ovipositor can be more easily viewed by pressing gently on the abdomen of the specimen.



Ovipositors of SWD (above) are serrated and larger than those of other *Drosophila* (at right).

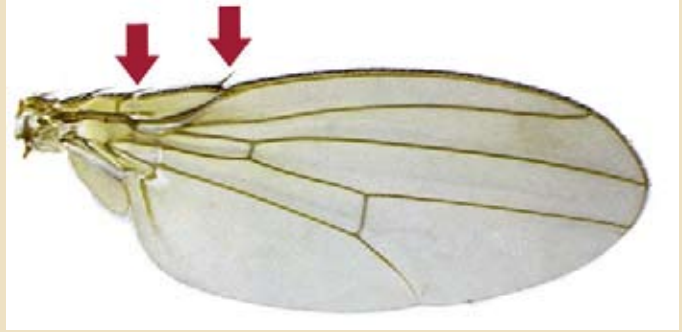


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# 1

### Is it a Drosophila?

Many insects (e.g., flies, wasps) have spotted wings. Species within the *Drosophila* genus have two “breaks” along the top (costal) vein of their wings.



# 3

### Is it a male SWD?

Male spotted wing drosophila are relatively easy to identify. The males have the characteristic dark spot on the tips of their wings. They also have red eyes and two dark bands on their front legs.



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**For Help Identifying Suspicious Specimens**  
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