

**We all need to tackle
Gall Wasp together.**

**Help eradicate Gall Wasp
through controlled and
timely gardening techniques.**

**Correct disposal of infected
branches is IMPORTANT.**

**Together we can nip
Citrus Gall Wasp
in the bud.**



**Come along and learn
how to look after the
lemon trees you love.**

Visit

www.saveourcitrusinfo.org

**For further information on how to
control Citrus Gall Wasp in an effective
non-toxic and sustainable manner.**



**Proudly supported by the
Sustainable Homes and Communities program.**

MELBOURNE'S LEMON TREES ARE UNDER ATTACK!

**The native Citrus Gall Wasp
has colonised our citrus trees.**

**This is reducing productivity
and is slowly killing
our beautiful trees!**



**A Co-ordinated Approach to
Citrus Gall Wasp Control.**

Got Gall?



What is gall?

Gall is lumpy growths that occur in citrus trees infected by the native Citrus Gall Wasp - (*Bruchophagus fellis*)

The Citrus Gall wasp has a 12 month lifecycle starting in spring when it lays eggs in the fresh new stems of the citrus tree. The eggs hatch two to four weeks later and begin feeding inside the stems. This causes the tree to produce swollen lumpy stems known as Galls.

Can I leave the gall in the tree?

No. Not only does Citrus Gall wasp reduce your trees fruit production, but it also causes a slow decline of the trees health, eventually killing it. When the wasps emerge from the galls they will re-infect the host tree and infect other trees in your neighbourhood.

Can I eat fruit from a tree with gall?

Yes. The fruit is unaffected.

Control Methods.

Avoid high nitrogen fertilisers in spring.

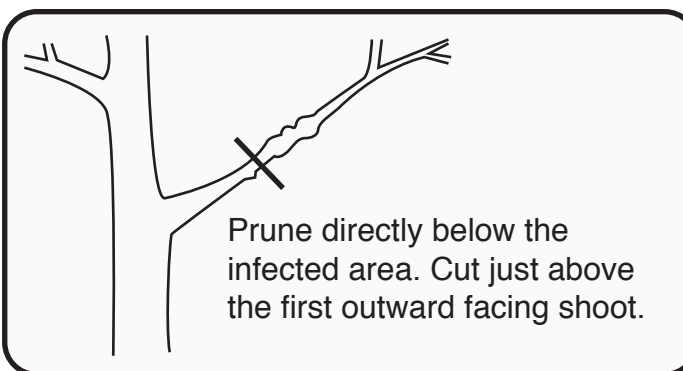
Fertilising with a high nitrogen content in spring will promote excessive new soft growth which is very attractive to the wasp.

Avoid using 'sticky' yellow traps as they also kill beneficial insects.

Prune active galls out as they appear. Remove all gall material by **late August** before the wasps begin to hatch.

If your tree is heavily infected, requiring a hard prune, you may not get fruit for 2 years.

Pruning Technique



Prune directly below the infected area. Cut just above the first outward facing shoot.

Correct Disposal.

Do not dispose of infected material in your green bin or compost. The galls will still hatch.

If incineration is not an option, double bag the infected material and put in your **rubbish bin - not your green bin.**

Ideally infected prunings should be burnt. Check with your **local Council guidelines.** And always conduct any incineration in a safe manner.

Co-ordination is Key.

Problems arise when trees are pruned at the wrong time or not pruned at all. Leaving the wasp to spread and contaminate new trees.

If **we all** prune by **late August** and **destroy infected material correctly** we can reduce the spread of Citrus Gall Wasp.

Be a good neighbour and a friend to lemon trees and get with the program.