Loosely draped backyard fruit tree netting is cruel and deadly to wildlife. It is responsible for the deaths of thousands of flying-foaxes annually.

**Flying-foaxes are protected wildlife and it is illegal to harm them in netting.**

Two of Queensland's flying fox species are listed as vulnerable to extinction. It is vital we limit the risk of harm. We must work together to remove unsafe netting from the market place. We advise people who unintentionally catch a bat in their net, to return it to the place of purchase, request a refund and demand a safer alternative. Please never attempt to free a bat from netting yourself. Always seek help from vaccinated and trained wildlife carers.

**Recommended Safe Alternatives**

- **Coolaroo/HailGuard**
  - Proven to be effective with no harm to wildlife including bats.
  - Approximately 15-18% shade, it will not affect the ripening or quality of fruit produced.
  - Buy from Bunnings & Fernland Agencies.

- **Waxed Fruit Bags**
  - Protects fruit from bats, birds and insects.
  - Use on the fruit you can reach and unreachable fruit can be left for wildlife.
  - Buy online from Green Harvest.

- **FruitSaver Net**
  - Wildlife safe net.
  - Box shaped 11 sq meter sewn net.
  - Can be used on fruit trees over a frame.
  - Has an opening to harvest the fruit.

- **Plastic Garden Pot**
  - Cut a plastic pot up the side & stretch over the fruit like a bell.
  - Wildlife cannot reach underneath.
  - Great for Paw Paws and Mangoes.

**Do**
- Use safe alternatives to using drape netting.
- Use fruit bags.
- Use safe netting products such as: HailGuard and Coolaroo.

**Don’t**
- Use anti-bird netting draped on fruit trees.
- Try to remove the bat yourself.
- Never release a bat from netting, call us!