





Technical Bulletin for: Carob Moth

Ectomyelois ceratoniae (Zeller) • Lepidoptera, *Pyralidae* • ECTCER



DISTRIBUTION	Widely distributed around the world
HOSTS	Wide host range, feeds on many types of seeds and pods, including Pomegranate, Pistachio, and Citrus
DESCRIPTION	
ADULT MOTH	Adults have forewings with a pale brown pattern, and plain white hindwings. The adult moth is about 0.8-1.0 cm in length.
LARVAE	The larvae are translucent white, with the internal organs visible from the outside, about 16-18 mm long when fully grown.
EGGS	
LIFE HISTORY	The female moths find suitable fruit or nuts on which to lay their eggs using volatile substances emitted by fungus which is infecting the material. A female lays 100-350 eggs in about one month. The hatched larvae enter into any available openings or cracks in the fruit, wherein they feed without harming the seeds. The pest develops (especially in storage) throughout the entire year, pupating where they had fed. The pest completes 4-5 annual generations, each requiring 1.5-5.0 months.

MONITORING INFORMATION

LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE & FIELD LIFE	Carob Moth Pheromone and BHT in a White Rubber Septum. Lure Longevity: Thirty (30) days.	
TRAP TO USE	Paper or Plastic Delta	
MONITORING STRATEGY	Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations.	
CULTURAL AND PHYSICAL CONTROLS	Controlled atmospheres (lower oxygen levels along with elevated CO2 concentrations) greatly curtail pest development. Infestation can be reduced by early harvesting, before the first-generation moths can attack them and by removing dropped carobs.	

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