





Technical Bulletin for: **Pistachio Twig Borer**

Kermania pistaciella (Amsel) • Lepidoptera, *Tineidae* • KERPIS



DISTRIBUTION	Middle East, notably Iran
HOSTS	Pistachio.
DESCRIPTION	
Adult Moth	Wingspan is 11-13 mm; forewings are gray with a yellow triangular spot in the center of the wings.
Larvae	Small and white when first hatched, turning a blackish gray and growing legs during the final instar. Can reach lengths between 10.5-13 mm
Eggs	Boat-like and pale yellow, with outstanding parallel lines on its surface, measuring 0.2 mm in length and 0.4 mm in width.
LIFE HISTORY	The adult moth appears in late March-early April, lays its eggs in flower and fruit clusters, as well as on new shoots and petioles during high pest populations. The newly hatched larvae directly penetrate into the cluster tissues from which they bore into the rachis fruit cluster. Larvae tunneled in the pedicel of fruit cluster and branches and began to feed, overwintering as 4 th instar larvae within branches. Pupation is done on the ground around the host plant. There are four larval instars in pistachio woodborer life cycle, but only one generation per year.

MONITORING INFORMATION

LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE & FIELD LIFE	(2S,12Z)-2-acetoxy-12-heptadecene in a Red Rubber Septum. Lure Longevity: 30 days.	
TRAP TO USE	Red Paper or Plastic Delta Trap.	
MONITORING STRATEGY	Hang traps near potential host plants before spring begins. Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations.	
CULTURAL & PHYSICAL CONTROL	Check fruit clusters for eggs or stems for damage caused by larvae, who fill canals within the plant's xylem with waste matter.	

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