





Technical Bulletin for: **Spotted Tentiform Leafminer**

Phyllonorycter blancardella (Fabricius) • Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae • PHYBLA



DISTRIBUTION	Native to Europe, now found in the Eastern US and Canada
HOSTS	Apple (<i>Malus</i> spp.)
DESCRIPTION	
Adult	About 3 mm long, brown wings with white transverse stripes outlined in black
Larvae	Yellow to pale green, growing to 3mm in length after 5 instars
Eggs	Elliptical, cream-colored, 2.5mm in diameter.
LIFE HISTORY	Pupae overwinter in fallen apple leaves. Adults begin to emerge around the half-inch greening stage in spring and continue through bloom. Females fly to leaves, laying about 25 single eggs on the undersides of these leaves, making them hard to spot. These eggs hatch in 6-10 days, going through two stages. These larvae are “sap-feeders” through their first instar, later entering a “tissue-feeder” stage from 2 nd instar onwards; all instars feed on the leaves, producing telltale leaf “mines”. Each generation takes 35-55 days to complete, and there are usually 3-4 generations per year, with activity occurring until leaves drop in autumn.

MONITORING INFORMATION

ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, LURE, FIELD LIFE	(E)-10-Dodecenyl acetate in a red rubber septum. Lure longevity: 30 Days	
TRAP TO USE	Red Delta Trap	
MONITORING STRATEGY	Place 1 trap every 3-5 acres, adding additional if adult counts are high.	
CULTURAL & PHYSICAL CONTROL	Regular field searches are necessary to determine damage thresholds. Check on the underside of leaves for egg clusters, larvae and/or leaf “mines” left behind by feeding immatures, removing if necessary. Clean leaf litter regularly, especially during the autumn months. Additionally, check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations.	

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