





Technical Bulletin for: Artichoke Plume Moth

Platyptilia carduidactyla (Charles Riley) • Lepidoptera, *Pterophoridae* • PLACAR



DISTRIBUTION	United States, Mexico
HOSTS	Burdock, Plumeless Thistles, Plume Thistle, Artichokes (particularly Globe Artichoke), and Milk Thistle species.
DESCRIPTION	
Adult Moth	Buff to brownish buff in color, with a unisex wingspan of 19-32 mm. Wings are divided into lobes, mimicking the appearance of multiple wings, with fringed hind wings.
Larvae	Larvae undergo four to five instars. Larvae in the first instar are pale yellow and around 1 mm long, and in the last instar are yellowish to pink at maturity and about 16mm long.
Eggs	Light greenish-yellow at first, then turning orange-yellow with age. Very small and shiny. Usually laid singly on the underside of leaves, occasionally on the bud stalk.
LIFE HISTORY	When close to pupation, larvae cease feeding, emerge from the feeding site, and generally drop to the ground. In the early stages, prepupae are active in searching out a suitable site for pupation. Adults take wing in July in Mexico and from May to September further north.

MONITORING INFORMATION

LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE & FIELD LIFE	Z-11-16Ald on a white rubber septum. Lure longevity: Thirty (30) days	
TRAP TO USE	Red Paper or Plastic Delta Trap	
MONITORING STRATEGY	Hang traps near perennial artichoke fields. Traps that catch 7 or more individuals may indicate an ongoing problem. When planting or replanting an artichoke field, consider soaking replant stumps in a solution of the entomopathogenic nematode, <i>S. carpocapsae</i> . Otherwise, check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations.	
CULTURAL & PHYSICAL CONTROL	Examine leaves weekly during summer, fall, and spring for eggs. Eggs are difficult to see, and some experience is required to make an accurate egg count. Examine individual shoots weekly for plume moth larvae. During Harvest, pick infested buds and dispose of them as soon as possible.	

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Alpha Scents, Inc., 360 S. Sequoia Pkwy. Canby, OR 97013
TEL: 503-342-8611 • FAX: 314-271-7297 • sales@alphascents.com • www.alphascents.com