





Technical Bulletin for: Apple Maggot

Rhagoletis pomonella (Walsh) • Diptera, *Tephritidae* • RHAPOM



DISTRIBUTION	Africa, Asia, Europe, The Americas (Southern U.S. and Central/South America)
HOSTS	Apple, cherry, plum, peach, dogwood, cranberry, crabapple, quince, apricot, fruits of hawthorn, <i>Pyracantha</i> berries and wild rose hips
DESCRIPTION	
Adult	Adults are about 6.5 to 3.8 mm long. Females have 4 white crossbands on a black abdomen. Males have 3 crossbands. Wings are clear with black bands.
Larvae	White with a brown head, about 7-8 mm long.
Eggs	Slender, curved, smooth, white 0.7 mm long, deposited singly just under fruit skin.
LIFE HISTORY	Apple maggots overwinter as pupae in the soil. Generally, there is one generation per year, although there may be a partial second generation in warm years. Adults emerge in mid-June to early July. Emergence usually peaks between mid and late July and is over by late August. In some places, some of the pupae may remain in the soil and will not emerge until the following year. Female flies lay up to 300 eggs singly under the skin of apples over a 30-day life span. As the ovipositor is removed, a pheromone is smeared on the fruit skin that keeps other females from laying eggs. Eggs hatch in 2 to 10 days, depending on temperature.

MONITORING INFORMATION

LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE & FIELD LIFE	Ammonium carbonate in a Plastic Sachet. Lure longevity: Twelve (12) weeks. 
TRAP TO USE	Yellow Sticky Card (Two sided and Back-folding) 
MONITORING STRATEGY	Hang traps at head height, clearly visible on the outside edge of the tree canopy. To determine when the flies are first present, traps should be placed out in mid-June. Traps should be checked 1 to 2 times per week. Replace traps as necessary. Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations.
CULTURAL & PHYSICAL CONTROL	Check trees and ground for infested apples, of which all should be destroyed to prevent further infestations.

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