

(revision date:5/7/2015)

Plum, Prune (Fresh): Fruittree leafroller

Use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for successful plant problem management.

Biology

The larvae of the fruittree leafroller feed on leaves, flower parts, and sometimes young fruit. They are pale to dark green with a shiny black head and are about 3/4" long at maturity. Typical symptoms of leafroller feeding are leaves that are rolled and tied in place with webbing, but surface damage on the fruit is more common on prune, pear, and apricot. The caterpillars are active when disturbed, wiggling vigorously or dropping to the ground on a thread. Larvae are mature by the end of May, and adults may be found from early June through mid-August. The adult moth is 1/2" to 3/4" long and mottled tan and brown.

Management Options

Non-Chemical Management

- ~ Pick out and destroy rolled leaves and caterpillars, when practical.
- ~ Pinch rolled leaves to kill caterpillars.
- ~ Encourage natural enemies of caterpillars including birds, parasitic wasps and flies, and predacious beetles. Avoid use of broad-spectrum insecticides which kill beneficial insects.

Select non-chemical management options as your first choice!

Chemical Management

IMPORTANT: Visit Home and Garden Fact Sheets for more information on using pesticides

Apply spinosad just after petal fall. Homeowners should not make foliar applications to trees over 10 ft tall. Consult a commercial pesticide applicator for treatment of trees and shrubs over 10 ft. tall.

Listed below are examples of pesticides that are legal in Washington. Always read and follow all label directions.

- ~ Bull's-Eye Bioinsecticide
 - active ingredient: spinosad (spinosyn A+D)
 - EPA reg no: 62719-314-56872
- ~ ferti-lome Borer, Bagworm, Tent Caterpillar & Leafminer Spray
 - active ingredient: spinosad (spinosyn A+D)
 - EPA reg no: 62719-314-7401
- ~ Monterey Garden Insect Spray [Organic]
 - active ingredient: spinosad (spinosyn A+D)
 - EPA reg no: 62719-314-54705
- ~ This list may not include all products registered for this use.

Plum, Prune (Fresh): Fruittree leafroller

Images



~ Caption: Leafroller close-up
~ Photo by: K. Grey



~ Caption: Leafroller damage on rhododendron
~ Photo by: A.L. Antonelli



~ Caption: Obliquebanded leafroller adult
~ Photo by: J.F. Brunner