REDBANDED LEAFROLLER (RBLR)

Argyrotaenia velutinana

Description:

Adults:

Adults have rusty red to red-brown bands extending from about the middle of the front edge of the forewing to a point about two-thirds of the distance from the wing base, and a wingspan of about 0.5 in (13 mm).

Eggs:

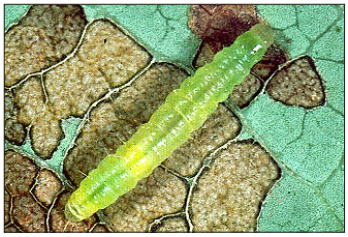
Egg masses fray-green to dull yellow-orange color and are deposited primarily on the trunk and scaffold limbs

Larvae:

Fully developed larvae are about 0.75 in (19 mm) long and vary from yellow green to pale green with a yellow or green head.

Pupae:

Pupae are greenish brown when first formed and turn a deeper brown as they develop.



Left: RBLR adult (source: NC State Extension Publications). Right: RBLR larva (source: G.C. Brown, University of Maine).

Hosts:

Mainly apples, but also cherry, peach, plum, grape, other small fruit, and ornamental crops.

Damage:

- Larvae skeletonize leaves from the underside, folding and webbing them together causing the rolling of leaves.
- Larvae feed on the surface of fruit and dig superficial tunnels in the flesh of the fruit.
- Early generation feeding injury may be a broad irregular scar on the side of the fruit.

Left: RBLR larval damage (source: NC State Extension Publications). Right: RBLR larval feeding on fruit surface (source: NY State Ag Experiment Station).

Phenology:

- Two to four generations per year, depending on location.
- Overwinters as pupae within leaves folded on the ground or within other debris.
- Spring emergence begins at early green tip stage of bud development and peaks at tight cluster and pink stages.
- Egg laying starts soon after emergence and continues into bloom. Egg hatch begins as early as trees start to bloom, but usually peaks at petal fall.

Lure Type and Maintenance:

- PHEROCON® RBLR controlled release lure.
- Replace PHEROCON® RBLR lures every 4 weeks.

Lure Storage:

- Store in unopened factory sealed packages in a cool place (< 74° F or 24° C maximum) for short periods or refrigerate longer term.
- Refrigerate or freeze unopened packages to carry over for annual storage.

Trap Design:

- PHEROCON 1C, 1CP, DELTA VI, or IIB.

Placement Time:

- Traps should be placed in mid-March to April before adult emergence.

Placement Pattern:

- Within orchard in a grid pattern.
- Within tree 6-7 ft (1.8-2.1 m) high in canopy, unblocked by leaves or developing fruit.

Trap Density:

Number of traps	*Acres*	*Hectares*
Minimum of 2	< 10	< 4
One trap per 5-10 acres (2-4 hectares)	10-100	4-40

Trap Maintenance:

- Check daily until biofix, then weekly thereafter.
- Replace trap liners every 4 weeks, or when fouled with dust or insect debris.

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Recommendations:

- Primarily controlled by sprays targeted at other insects such as plum curculio and apple maggot.
- Sprays that are applied shortly after the peak emergence are the most effective means of control, targeting not only adults but eggs and larvae. Sprays during late June or early July flights are also effective.

Source: Recommendations and certain other sections were sourced from University of New Hampshire Redbanded Leafroller fact sheet, Michigan State University Integrated Pest Management for Redbanded Leafroller, NC State Extension Publication for Redbanded Leafroller, and Penn State Extension Tree Fruit Insect Pest – Redbanded Leafroller.

Note, always:

- Use only one lure per trap.
- Count and record captures as recommended.
- Change trap as needed.
- Discard lures in trash far from the area of use and remove trash afterwards.
- Follow recommendations.
- Contact local extension authorities and consultants for regional advice.

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