

## Light Brown Apple Moth

*Epiphyas postvittana*

Native of Australia, the Light Brown Apple Moth was first introduced to California in 2007. A pest of ornamental plants and agricultural crops, it is currently being eradicated in California, and is **not yet present in Rhode Island**.



Natasha Wright, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Bugwood.org



Natasha Wright, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Bugwood.org



Department of Primary Industries and Water, Tasmania Archive, Bugwood.org

### Identifying Features:

Adult females have a 2 cm wingspan, much larger than that of the male. Females are yellowish-brown in color with discrete markings. Males are distinct with a yellowish-brown color at the base of their wing and variable dark, red-brown markings towards the tip of the wing.

On the upper surface of leaves, eggs are flattened and laid in groups. Only a few millimeters long, young larvae have a yellow-green body and brown head. At maturity, larvae are green and approximately 10-18 mm long.

**It has been reported that this moth feeds on over 200 species of plants including, fruits, broadleaved weeds, vegetables, trees and ornamentals.**

### Damage:

- Caterpillars feed on the leaves, buds, shoots and fruit of plants.
- Larvae roll together leaves and buds as well as construct silken shelters to feed under.
- Irregular brown areas on the surface of the fruit caused by larval feeding. Larvae sometimes enter fruit to feed.

**The greatest economical impact of the Light Brown Apple Moth is damage to the fruit caused by larvae.**

### Information Sources

[Light Brown Apple Moth - Epiphyas postvittana](http://www.massnrc.org/pests/pestFAQsheets/lightbrownapplemoth.htm). 26 February 2008. 19 February 2009 <<http://www.massnrc.org/pests/pestFAQsheets/lightbrownapplemoth.htm>>.

[Light Brown Apple Moth, Epiphyas postvittana](http://pest.ceris.purdue.edu/searchpest.php?selectName=ITBUBPA). 19 February 2009 <<http://pest.ceris.purdue.edu/searchpest.php?selectName=ITBUBPA>>.

### Image Sources

[Light Brown Apple Moth, Epiphyas postvittana](http://www.invasive.org/search/action.cfm?q=light%20brown%20apple%20moth). 25 August 2008. 19 February 2009 <<http://www.invasive.org/search/action.cfm?q=light%20brown%20apple%20moth>>.