

## Fruit Piercing Moth

*Eudocima fullonia*

Native to the Indo-Malaysia region, the Fruit Piercing Moth was first reported in Hawaii in 1985. A pest of fruit and vegetable crops, such as apples, apricots, bananas, breadfruit, coffee, figs, grapefruit, guava, kiwifruit, litchi, longan, mandarins, mangoes, nectarines, oranges, papaya, passion fruit, peaches, persimmons, pineapple, plums and star fruit, as well as tomatoes and melons it is **not yet present in Rhode Island**.



Pest and Diseases Image Library, Bugwood.org



Pest and Diseases Image Library, Bugwood.org



### Identifying Features:

With approximately a 4 inch wingspan, the adult moth's body only measures about 2 inches. The adult moth has large eyes, a pale, purple-brown thorax and an abdomen that is pale brown at the base and yellow-orange at the tip. The forewings are olive to purple-brown in color, with many having white and green flecks (these flecks are more common on females). Female wings have a scalloped edge, whereas male wings are evenly curved. The hind wings on males and females are bright orange, with a black, comma-shaped mark and have a fringe-like black border with white dots.

Larvae go through five stages. When fully grown, larvae reach up to 2 inches. Caterpillars are either dark green to black or pale green to yellow. Small creamy-white spots and bars edged with black are visible on the upper surface of the body.

### Damage:

- Direct feeding by the adult moth on fruit causes premature ripening and early dropping of fruits.
- The moth is a known vector of *Oospora citri*. This is a fungus that causes not only fruit rot, but also leaves a distinguishable odor to attract additional Fruit Piercing Moths.



Pest and Diseases Image Library, Bugwood.org

### Information Sources

[Fruit Piercing Moth](http://extension.entm.purdue.edu/CAPS/pestInfo/fruitPiercingMoth.htm). 28 April 2008. 25 February 2009 <<http://extension.entm.purdue.edu/CAPS/pestInfo/fruitPiercingMoth.htm>>.

Kessing, Jayma L. M., et al. [Othreis fullonia](http://www.extento.hawaii.edu/kbase/crop/Type/othreis.htm) (Clerk). January 2003. 25 February 2009 <<http://www.extento.hawaii.edu/kbase/crop/Type/othreis.htm>>.

### Image Sources

[Fruit Piercing Moth, Eudocima fullonia](http://www.insectimages.org/search/action.cfm?q=eudocima%20fullonia). 26 August 2008. 25 February 2009 <<http://www.insectimages.org/search/action.cfm?q=eudocima%20fullonia>>.

[Fruit Piercing Moth](http://extension.entm.purdue.edu/CAPS/pestInfo/fruitPiercingMoth.htm). 28 April 2008. 25 February 2009 <<http://extension.entm.purdue.edu/CAPS/pestInfo/fruitPiercingMoth.htm>>.