

European Grape Vine Moth

Lobesia botrana

Native of Europe, the European Grape Vine Moth has **not yet been introduced to the U.S.** This pest feeds primarily on flowers and fruits of grapes although it has demonstrated curious behavior as to feed on some 27 different plant families.



Identifying Features:

The forewings of the male are creamy-white, with a pale-yellowish overlay and deeply suffused with bluish-gray. Black, yellow and light olive-brown markings are moderately defined and diffuse. The hind wing is white with weak scales and a dark gray sub-basal line. The wing spread of a male is 5-7 mm long. The forewing of the female is similar in coloration and markings. However, the hind wing of the female is completely dark gray.

With a yellowish brown head and an abdomen varying from yellowish green to whitish brown, or brown, the larvae of the European Grape Vine Moth can grow to approximately 9-10 mm long. The body can be completely translucent leaving the gut visible. Larvae have short and retracted antennae.



Damage:

- Caterpillars gnaw the almost ripe fruits (grapes). Molds, particularly Botrytis, develop quickly on the wounds. The fruit then turns brown and rots.
- First generation larvae feed on flowers and buds, pupating within rolled leaves or clusters of inflorescences (glomerules) tied with silk.
- Second generation larvae feed on and develop directly in an individual grape.
- The second and third generations of the European Grape Vine Moth are the most economically damaging as they directly and severely affect mature berries through larval feeding.

Information Sources

Venette, Robert C., et al. Mini Risk Assessment: Grape Berry Moth, *Lobesia botrana* (Denis & Schiffermuller) {Lepidoptera: Tortricidae}. 5 September 2003. Department of Entomology, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Mn. <<http://www.massnrc.org/pests/pestFAQsheets/asianlonghorned.html>>.

Image Sources

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