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SUMMER FRUIT TORTRIX MOTH (*Adoxophyes orana*)

The summer fruit tortrix moth (SFTM), a tortricid moth native to Europe and Asia, has not yet been found in North America. However, its favorable prospects for establishment in the Eastern United States climate, coupled with its wide host range, means it has the potential to cause major economic damage to North American agriculture.

There are over 50 host species listed for SFTM, including apple, pear, peach, blackberry, cherry, currant, and grape, along with many native hardwood species. Larvae feed on the foliage and developing fruit. Fruit damaged by SFTM is at risk for invasion by fungi and other secondary pests.

Adults have a 15-22 mm wingspan, and their brownish wings have darker variable markings. Males tend to be more brightly colored. Females lay flattened 3-10 mm diameter clusters of yellowish eggs on leaves in the early spring. The larvae hatch, feed, and mature (18 – 20 mm in length) in about three weeks. Larvae are greenish with small warts and hairs, with a light brown to yellow head. When disturbed, they may descend on a silken thread to escape. Mature larvae pupate in cocoons between leaves that are tied together with silk and emerge as adults. There can be two generations a year, depending on temperature. The second generation overwinters as a second or third instar caterpillar hidden in silk spinnings in bark crevices or in foliage.

United States survey efforts for SFTM rely mostly on pheromone traps. Visual and beat sampling to inspect for eggs and larvae may also take place. Although all surveys for this insect in North America have so far turned up negative, two interceptions in Los Angeles, CA and Anchorage, AK were reported by the USDA.

Information Sources:
Summer fruit tortrix moth, *Adoxophyes orana* (Lepidoptera: Tortricidae) - http://www.invasive.org/browse/subinfo.cfm?sub=4937

Adoxophyes orana - Bugwood wiki - http://wiki.bugwood.org/Adoxophyes_orana