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PLUM FRUIT MOTH (*Grapholita funebrana*)



Todd M. Gilligan and Marc E. Epstein, TortAI: Tortricids of Agricultural Importance, USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org

The Plum Fruit Moth (PFM) is an invasive moth originating from Europe and Asia. The primary hosts include cultivated and wild apricot, cherry and plum, as well as other stone fruits in the Rosaceae family. The PFM has been intercepted at United States ports of entry many times, primarily in bagged fruit. The PFM can be easily mistaken for a similar species, *Grapholita molesta*, which is distributed throughout the United States and share the same hosts in the Rosaceae family.

Adults have dark gray-brown forewings with an average wingspan of 12-15 mm. Females lay eggs in small groups on the fruit surface beginning in May. In 5-10 days, the larvae proceed to hatch and the PFM can complete 1-3 generations per year. Larvae have a dark brown-black head while

the thorax and abdomen are pale-yellow, but becoming more orange-pink during larval maturation. Larvae feed on the inside of the fruit, causing liquid to exude from larval entry holes, as well as causing premature fruit drop. Larval feeding occurs for 15-17 days until they exit the fruit to pupate under nearby bark or soil.

A risk analysis report by the USDA has found that the PFM has a low to moderate risk for establishment in the United States due to host availability and climate. The primary trapping method is a pheromone lure wing trap.



R. Coatin (USDA)