

Raspberry Sawfly*

The raspberry sawfly attacks the raspberry, loganberry, and blackberry. The larvae feed on the undersurface of the leaves leaving round holes. The injury is most noticeable in May and June and again in late summer.

Life History

The adult sawfly emerges from the soil in late April and May, and the females lay their eggs in the leaves (see Fig. 1). Immediately after hatching, the larvae (see Fig. 2) start to feed upon the leaves. Larvae mature rapidly, but are usually unnoticed until the injury becomes severe. After completing their feeding, larvae drop to the ground and spin small silken cocoons in the soil and repeat the life cycle. The majority, however, remain in their cocoons until the following spring.

Management

Refer to the WSU Hortsense website (pep.wsu.edu/hortsense) or the Pacific Northwest Insect Management Handbook for current management recommendations.



Fig. 1. Raspberry sawfly. Mature insect lays eggs in leaves.



Fig. 2. Raspberry sawfly larva feeds on leaves in spring.

*From *Small Fruit Pests – Biology, Diagnosis, and Management*, Washington State University EB 1388. 1988.