

Grape Berry Moth Identification and Trapping



Berries infested by grape berry moth larvae turn color prematurely and may show a visible puncture wound at the point where the larva entered the berry



This is a male grape berry moth (GBM) in a sticky trap. Male moths are approximately 6 mm in length and have a distinct blue band across their back. Note the flower cap from a grape just left of the moth for size reference.





Notes on Traps

- Traps should be placed in the vineyard before bloom, at equal intervals on the border of the vineyard nearest to the wooded area (where GBM enters the vineyard).
- A total of 4 traps per 10 acres is a good starting point.
- The height of the trap should be between 40-70 inches from the ground.
- Traps should be checked at least once a week, preferably on the same day each week.
- Always remove moths or anything that could be confused with a moth at each weekly data recording session.



NOT a Grape Berry Moth



Episimus argutanus (Clemens)

Grape Berry Moth



Paralobesia viteana (Clemens)

Beware of look-alike moths. The above moth on the left is not the GBM. It is slightly longer (7-9 mm) and has a more linear (narrow) body shape. The eyes are also larger and it does not have a blue stripe or a point on the nose. Do not count those moths, and remove them from the traps to avoid confusion. The moth on the right is a male GBM. Notice the blue band across the center of the body, pointed nose, antennae shape, and whitish gray markings on the middle and tail end of wings.

Example of a Weekly Data Report:

Date: 5/5

Trap 1 = 3 moths

Trap 2 = 0 moths

Trap 3 = 1 moth

Trap 4 = 0 moths

Total Moths 5/5 = 4

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