

FOR INFORMATION
DA-2006-22
May 11, 2006

SUBJECT: Presence of *Archips xylosteanus* Linnaeus (Zhang 1994),
Variegated Golden Tortrix (Lepidoptera/Tortricidae) on Memorial
University Campus, St. Johns, Newfoundland

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

E. Richard Hoebeke, Department of Entomology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, collected *Archips xylosteanus* on ornamental trees and shrubs on Memorial University Campus, St. John's, Newfoundland, in August 2005 as part of an exotic pest detection program. Dr. Hoebeke also identified the insect, the first record of *Archips xylosteanus* in North America.

Inspectors should watch for *A. xylosteanus* larvae in nursery stock originating in Canada. The insect larvae are lepidopteran leafrollers in the family Tortricidae that disfigure host plants by feeding on leaves. *A. xylosteanus* is highly polyphagous, feeding on numerous plant genera in numerous families. It damages orchard, ornamental, and forest crops, especially oak, maple, ash, elm, linden, dogwood, and fruit plants in the family Rosaceae such as apple and cherry.

A. xylosteanus is a leafroller with little risk for transport with fruit but with high risk of transport with nursery stock. Assuming the pest is restricted to Newfoundland, transport with commercial nursery stock or individuals carrying stock to Maine is the most likely pathway into the United States. If the insect is present on the Canadian mainland, it will move into the United States by natural means since wild and commercial hosts occur throughout North America.

A. xylosteanus is a minor or occasional pest and has at least 17 parasitoids where it is native. There are at least 24 species of *Archips* in North America, two of which are introduced. Fifteen species of parasitoids attack the two exotic species of *Archips*, *A. fuscocupreanus*, and *A. rosana* in Western Washington State. Either native or introduced parasitoids might limit populations of and damage by *A. xylosteanus*; however, one should not assume that if *A. xylosteanus* is introduced into the United States it will be controlled by parasitoids.

A. xylosteanus is a quarantine pest in the United States and in Australia. Since it is a quarantine pest in areas where it does not yet occur, export of nursery stock from the United States to these areas would be impacted. Since it is of low or no risk of being transported with fruit, export of commodities for consumption is not expected to be greatly impacted.

Maine, the top apple-producing state in New England, is the closest to St. John's Newfoundland. In New England, leafrollers are detected by scouting and pheromone traps. They are usually

minor pests because they are controlled by insecticides used for other pests. Leafroller problems may increase with reduced summer spraying or with development of pesticide resistance.

/s/ Paul R. Eggert for

Richard L. Dunkle
Deputy Administrator
Plant Protection and Quarantine