



# Problem Solver

## Codling Moth

**Plants Affected:** Apple & Pear  
Fruit

**What it is:** A larvae that eats tissue inside apples & pears, rendering the fruit unpalatable

**What it isn't:** Plant Disease  
Nutritional Deficiency



Larvae In Fruit



Larvae crawling to ground



Adult Moth



Pupae

### What Causes It:

After a period of warm spring days & nights, (approx May 20th), moths mate, & the female lays eggs on fruit & leaf surfaces. 5 to 15 days later the larvae hatches & burrows into the fruit, working their way to the core, often feeding on seeds. Mature larvae burrow out of the fruit & reach the ground by crawling down the trees, dropping on silken threads or emerging from fallen fruit. The larvae then spin cocoons in debris or bark. The larvae over-winters as a full grown larvae within the cocoon. Several generations can occur per year.

### Prevention and Control Techniques:

Apple bags can be applied to block access to the fruit by the larvae.

Mating disruption pheromones & traps, prevent successful mating. Monitor these traps to apply sprays when & where they are needed.

Sterile Insect Release program to prevent successful offspring

Sprays of phosalone, or other chemical sprays with 21 day residual, so at least 3 spray/year are required for successful control.