

Obliquebanded Leafroller (*Choristoneura rosaceana*)

Obliquebanded leafroller (OBLR) is a native pest of apple in North America. Other hosts include peach and pear. It has 2 adult generations per year in Minnesota (June - September).

Adult is reddish-brown with chocolate brown bands. Body length is about 10 mm with a wingspan of 22 mm.



Fresh OBLR adult



OBLR after a week in sticky trap



OBLR egg mass

10 mm

22 mm (wingspan)

Green egg masses are laid on the upper leaf surface, or on fruit. Each mass may contain up to 200 eggs.

Larvae go through 6 instars. **Mature larva** is a green caterpillar with a brown to black head. Body length is about 22 mm. OBLR overwinter as immature larvae (third instar) in cocoons in bark crevices.



Mature OBLR larva



OBLR larva in rolled leaf

Overwintered larvae resume activity early in the spring about the time of the tight cluster stage of apple. They feed on developing flower buds and foliage.

As with most leafrollers, pupation usually takes place inside rolled leaves on the tree. **Pupa** is dark brown and about 11 mm long.

Feeding injury could occur to foliage (leaves) and the fruit. Overwintered larvae begin to feed on developing fruit immediately after petal fall. Many damaged fruits will drop, but those remaining on the tree will show corky scars at harvest. Summer larvae may also feed on the fruit.

It is difficult to distinguish OBLR injury from redbanded leafroller injury (see page 17).

Adult OBLR may be confused with some other leafroller moths including orange tortrix and apple pandemis moths. Fortunately, these look-alike moths are not known to occur in Minnesota.

Refer to the *Integrated Pest Management Manual for Minnesota Apple Orchards* for information on monitoring and management options.



Rolled leaf



Feeding injury by summer larvae (larva inset)