

Pest Profile



[Damage Caused by Appleleaf blister mite]

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Common Name: Appleleaf blister mite

Scientific Name: *Eriophyes mali*

Order and Family: Trombidiformes: Eriophyidae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg	0.04	Pearly white and oval shaped.
Larva/Nymph	> 0.07	Each of the three nymphal stages look like the adult but smaller.
Adult	Male: 0.15 Female: 0.2-0.23	It is light to amber yellow and resembles a short worm. It is cylindrical, tapered at the posterior end, and has two pairs of short legs near the front of the body.
Pupae (if applicable)		

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Piercing/sucking

Host plants: Appleleaf blister mites are primarily pests of apples and may possibly attack related plants such as mountain ash, cotoneaster, quince, serviceberry, snowberry, and hawthorn. Broadleaf weeds like mallow, bindweed, white clover, and knotweed enhance mite numbers.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Both nymphs and adults attack foliage and fruit, producing small galls or blisters. Blisters are reddish to yellowish green blisters at first but turn light brown to black as affected tissue dies later in the season. Blisters vary in size, with the largest about 1/8 inch (3 mm) in diameter. Several generations per year may develop within the blisters. As they become more crowded, mites move to growing terminals, where their feeding produces more blisters. Severe damage to foliage can cause leaves to drop prematurely. Loss of foliage weakens trees, reduces shoot growth, and interferes with fruit maturation and fruit bud formation. Feeding on fruit causes russeted, sunken spots and can deform apples.

References:

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