

Pest Profile



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Common Name: Angoumois Grain Moth

Scientific Name: *Sitotroga cerealella* (Oliveier)

Order and Family: Lepitopetra: Gelechilidae

Size and Appearance: *Sitotroga cerealella* (Olivier) is a pale yellowish-brown moth with a wingspan of 12-17 mm. It is distinguishable by its fringed almost hair-like scales present on both its body and wings. The head is slightly lighter with darker mouthparts.

| | Length (mm) | Appearance |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Egg | < 0.001 mm | Females lay about 40 white colored eggs either on or near a grain source. |
| Larva/Nymph | 1-13 mm, depending on instar | Larvae goes through 3 instars in roughly a 3-week period. They are white in color with a yellow head. |
| Adult | 12-17 mm, with wings spread | Adults are pale yellowish-brown and are 12-17 mm in length when wings are spread. They have fringe or hair-like scales all over body. The heads are lighter in color with dark mouthparts. |
| Pupa (if applicable) | 12-13 mm | Pupa is made of the last larval skin and the duration of the pupal stage takes place inside a kernel of grain. |

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

Host/s or Prey: *S. cerealella* are stored food pests that need a whole grain kernel in order to develop. Larvae feed on barley, rye, corn, oats, sesame, rice, and sunflower seeds.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): The larvae are the damaging stage of the pest and they feed voraciously on most stored grains as well as grains in the field. It feeds strictly on whole kernels and will reduce the weight and quality of the product. Small holes present on individual kernels of corn are a common sign. Often, an odor is present in heavily infested grains which makes the product not as attractive to sell.

References:

Smith, E.H. and Whitman, R.C. (2007). Stored Product Pests- Angoumois Grain Moth. In *NPMA Field Guide of Structural Pests*. (9.21.1). National Pest Management Association International.

Jacobs, S., Calvin, D. (1999). Angoumois Grain Moth. Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences, Department of Entomology. Retrieved on July 8th, 2016 from <http://ento.psu.edu/extension/factsheets/angoumois-grain-moth>