

[Home](#)

[Current season reports](#)

[Pest management](#)

[Weather/Climate](#)

[Economics](#)

[Maturity/Storage](#)

[Pollination](#)

[Rootstocks](#)

[Horticultural practices](#)

[Varieties](#)

[Contacts](#)

[Presentations](#)

[Links](#)

Apple rust mite - *Aculus schlechtendali* (Nalepa)

[Home](#) > [Pest management](#) > [mites](#) > apple rust mite

Adult apple rust mites (ARM) are elongated, triangular, tan in color, and barely discernable with a hand lens (0.2 mm long). ARM also have only 2 pairs of legs, whereas most mites have 4 pairs.

ARM move to trees in spring as soon as leaves open and remain on trees for the rest of the year.



Adult apple rust mites



Rust mite feeding can cause russeting on the fruit.

Additional information

- For more monitoring information and evaluation of available pesticides: [Michigan Fruit Management Guide](#)
- [A Practical Guide to Scouting Apple Orchards](#) – a DVD showing how to scout apple orchards.
- [MSU Diagnostic Services](#) for assistance in pest identification.
- [MSU Fruit Crop Advisory Team Alert](#) newsletters for current pest/crop conditions.

This information was developed from [A Pocket Guide for IPM Scouting in Michigan Apples](#) by David Epstein, Larry J. Gut and George W. Sundin. Purchase this in a pocket-sized guide for reference in the orchard from [MSU Extension](#) (publication E-2720).

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Web developer: [J.N. Landis](#).