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Tufted apple bud moth - *Platynota idaeusalis* (Walker)

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Larvae cut leaf petioles causing the leaf to hang down, and proceed to feed in the leaf encased in silken threads. Areas of fruit feeding are separated, not continuous, and take on the appearance of tiny holes, shallow channels, or as an area of rot, generally around the stem. Larvae overwinter in the orchard, and can be found in the trees early in the spring; adults emerge the beginning of May, first generation larvae appear around mid-June, second generation larvae appear mid-late August.



Early instar larvae are yellow with a black head capsule; mature larvae are light brown to grayish-tan with a brown head capsule and a dark stripe down the back of its body (about 19 mm long).



Adults are gray and brown moths with a patch of copper-colored scales, as well as a series of tufted scales in the middle of each forewing. They are about 13 mm long.

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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