



Snailcase bagworm

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Snailcase bagworm is an odd insect occasionally found in field crops bordering wood lots. Bagworms have been described as “corn borers in snail shells”. They are usually reported corn bordering woodlots. Bagworm is a weird caterpillar from Europe that is spreading across the U.S. This insect (all females, by the way) feeds on dozens of trees, shrubs, flowers, and even crops. It lives in a distinctive curled snail-like case made of silk and soil. Most reports of snailcase bagworm come from homeowners, since it climbs onto the siding of houses and sticks so firmly that it can’t be removed. In this case, however, bagworms apparently crawled or dropped out of trees onto corn, doing limited damage along the edge.

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