

# Insects

## Greenstriped Mapleworm

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The greenstriped mapleworm *Dryocampa rubicunda* (F.) is found throughout most of the eastern United States. This insect pest prefers maples; however, it has been reported feeding on various oaks and boxelder.

### Damage

Greenstriped mapleworm larvae (caterpillars) feed on leaves, consuming most of the leaf tissue. Their populations may become large, causing severe defoliation.

### Description and Life Cycle

The insect overwinters as a pupa in the soil. Moths emerge from May through July. Moths have woolly bodies and a wingspan of 1 3/4 to 2 1/2 inches. The forewing is rose-pink on the inner and outer borders with a yellow band between. Hind-wings may be pure yellow or yellow with pink streaks throughout. After mating, female moths lay pale green eggs in masses on the undersides of the leaves. The eggs hatch in approximately 10 days.

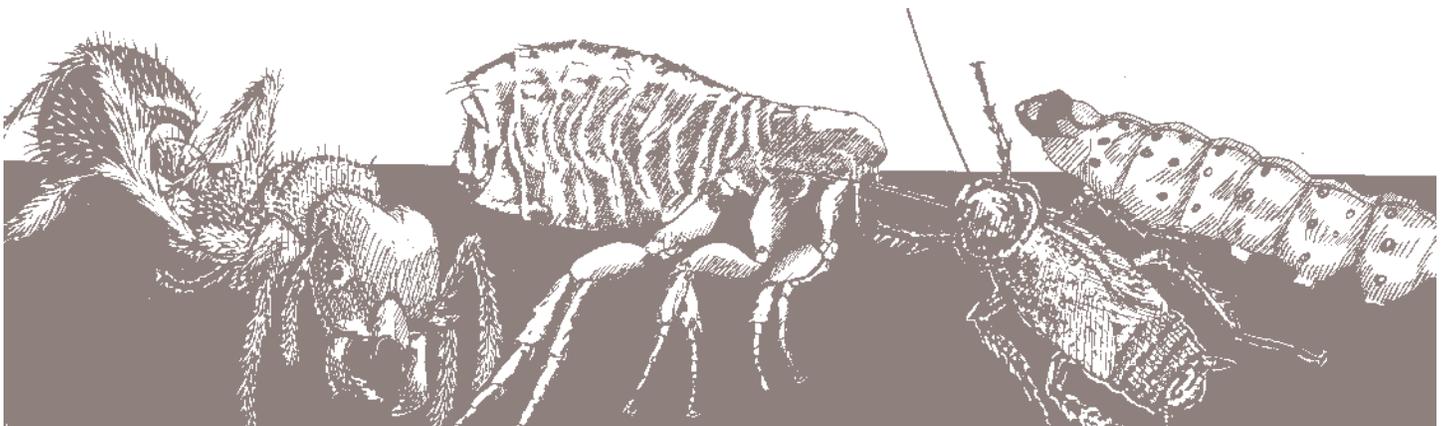


Greenstriped mapleworm larva  
Gerald J. Lenhard, [www.forestryimages.org](http://www.forestryimages.org)

Larvae are 1 1/2 inches long when full grown, having cherry-red heads and pale yellow-green bodies. Eight light and seven dark green stripes alternately run the entire length of the body. Two prominent, slender, horn-like projections are located on the top of the second segment



Greenstriped mapleworm moth  
Lacy L. Hyche, Auburn University,  
[www.forestryimages.org](http://www.forestryimages.org)



behind the head. There are two rows of short spines on both sides of the body. Larvae feed in groups on the undersides of leaves when young. As they mature, they feed singly on the foliage. Larvae become full-grown in about a month. They then crawl to the ground where pupation takes place. Two generations a year commonly occur in Tennessee.

### Control

Greenstriped mapleworms have been shown to be parasitized by several species of insects, but not in great abundance. Chemical control may be necessary when large populations are present. Maple trees may be treated with one of the following sprays during the period from May until August.

Insecticide	Amount per	
	Gallon	100 Gallons
carbaryl Carbaryl 80 S Sevin (4lb/gal SL) Bayer Advanced Complete Insect Killer for Gardens (0.126%)	1 1/4 Tbsp 2 tsp see label	1 1/4 lb 1 qt ---
azadirachtin Safer Bioneem 0.3% EC Azatin XL (3% EC)	2.5-5 tsp 0.6-1 tsp	--- 10-16 fl oz
cyfluthrin Tempo 20 WP (20% WP) Decathlon 20 WP (20% WP) Bayer Advanced Powerforce Multi-Insect Killer (0.75% concentrate)	--- --- see label	1.3 oz (36 gm) 1.3 oz (36 gm) ---
beta-cyfluthrin Tempo SC Ultra (1 lb/gal SC)	---	1.5 fl oz (45 ml)
bifenthrin Talstar F (7.9% F) Talstar One (7.9% F)	--- ---	5.4-10.8 fl oz 5.4-10.8 fl oz
fluvalinate Mavrik Aquaflo 22.3 F	1.33-3 tsp/5 gal	4-10 fl oz
Bacillus thuringiensis Dipel 2X (6.4% WP) Javelin WG (7.5% WP)	0.5-1.5 tsp ---	0.25-0.75 lb 0.25-1.5 lb

### Precautionary Statement

To protect people and the environment, pesticides should be used safely. This is everyone's responsibility, especially the user. Read and follow label directions carefully before you buy, mix, apply, store or dispose of a pesticide. According to laws regulating pesticides, they must be used only as directed by the label. Persons who do not obey the law will be subject to penalties.

### Disclaimer Statement

This publication contains pesticide recommendations that are subject to change at any time. The recommendations in this publication are provided only as a guide. It is always the pesticide applicator's responsibility, by law, to read and follow all current label directions for the specific pesticide being used. The label always takes precedence over the recommendations found in this publication.

Use of trade or brand names in this publication is for clarity and information; it does not imply approval of the product to the exclusion of others that may be of similar, suitable composition, nor does it guarantee or warrant the standard of the product. The author(s), the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture and University of Tennessee Extension assume no liability resulting from the use of these recommendations.

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