

# Coffee leafminer - *Perileucoptera (Leucoptera) coffeella* Guérin-Meneville

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*The moth which is captured in the trap*

The body of the moth is 2-3 mm long, the wingspan is 5-7 mm. The forewings are metallic, with dark stripes at the gently curling apex. The hindwings are grey and elongated. The general appearance of the moth is still somewhat robust, because of the relatively broad forewings.

The host plant of the larva includes coffee (*arabica* mostly but sometimes *robusta* may be equally attacked). The larvae bore irregular-shaped mines inside the green leaves. The size of the mines reaches the diameter of 10-18 mm. In the middle of the mine the faeces of the larva is visible as a dark line. The edge of the mine looks like a blister. While the larva lives inside the mine the epidermis of the leaf remains green. After the larva had left the mine the epidermis turns to brown. More than 4 mines on a leaf will result in shedding. Strong infestation can destroy a considerable part of the foliage of the coffee bushes.



*The damage of the larva, which should be averted*



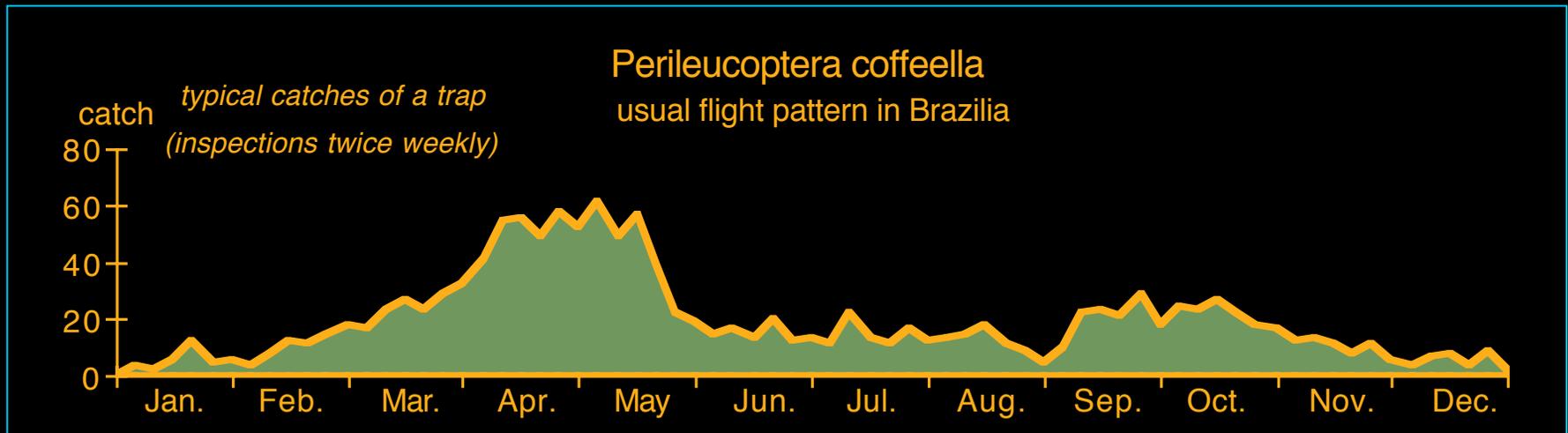
The pheromone trap should be suspended from branches at a height of 1 - 1.5 m in the tree canopy. Since the full life cycle of *P. coffeella* can be completed in 3-4 weeks, it can develop 4-12 generations depending on geographical region. Usual beginning of trapping thus depends on the region.

**Selectivity of the CSALOMON® RAG trap** (based on tests performed in Brazil): stray specimens of other leaf miners may be captured only incidentally .

**Longevity of the CSALOMON® RAG trap** in field conditions: depending on the warmth of the weather at least 4-6 weeks. After this period we suggest to set up a new trap for most effective detection and monitoring. Renewal of sticky inserts in intervals of 7-10 days recommended. In case of high catches this may become necessary more often.

*P. coffeella* is known as an important pest first of all in Latin American countries and Madagascar. Outbreaks of leafminers are usually kept in check by their enemies, the even smaller parasitoid Hymenoptera[1]. If however, by some reason these parasitoids are killed off (i.e. by insecticide treatment applied at the wrong time), an outbreak of the pest can develop very fast within some weeks. Also, according to experience if shading plants are removed from a coffee plantation, usually an outbreak of *P. coffeella* follows[1]. Pheromone traps are ideal for the timely detection of such an outbreak.

[1] <http://www.plantwise.org/KnowledgeBank/Datasheet.aspx?dsid=30486;>  
<http://repository.tamu.edu/bitstream/handle/1969.1/85837/Lomeli-Flores.pdf>



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So the moth looks,  
which is caught in the  
CSALOMON® RAG  
trap!

