

WATCH OUT FOR

Serpentine leafminer

(Liriomyza huidobrensis)



EXOTIC PLANT PEST HOTLINE
1800 084 881

Serpentine leafminer attacks a wide range of horticultural crops. The leafminer larvae feed by tunnelling through the leaf tissue, resulting in long, narrow, serpentine-shaped 'mines' which appear as white or grey lines on leaves. If you find anything suspicious, ring the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline on 1800 084 881

Serpentine leafminer

(*Liriomyza huidobrensis*)

About

Serpentine leafminer (*Liriomyza huidobrensis*) is an insect pest that was detected in an area of western Sydney on 22 October 2020.

This insect pest poses a serious threat to Australian agricultural and horticultural industries.

What should I look for?

A Serpentine leafminer infestation would most likely be detected through the presence of the mines in leaf tissue. Adult flies and larvae are not likely to be seen due to their size.

Spread

Spread of leafminer flies is most likely to occur with the transport of plant host material containing eggs or larvae.

The adults are capable of flight but are not very active fliers. They tend to fly within a crop but rarely between crops. Localised spread of the pest is most likely to occur through wind dispersal or on contaminated plant material or equipment.

Hosts

Serpentine leafminer is a significant pest of a number of vegetable crops including beans, cabbage, capsicum, celery, chilli, cucumber, eggplant, lettuce, onions, peas, potatoes and tomatoes.

A number of ornamental plants including cut flowers such as chrysanthemums and gerberas are also known to host Serpentine leafminer.

Actions to minimise risk

Production nurseries and growers should check their crops regularly for signs of plant pests and disease. Good on-farm biosecurity practices are vital to preventing incursions of plant pests and diseases. Put in place biosecurity best practice actions to prevent entry, establishment and spread of pests and diseases:

- practise "Come clean, Go clean"
- ensure all staff and visitors are instructed in and adhere to your business management hygiene requirements
- monitor your crops regularly
- monitor and control volunteer plants that can harbour the pest
- source plant material of a known high health status from reputable suppliers
- keep records

Reporting

If you suspect an exotic leafminer infestation, you must **report it immediately** by one of the following methods:

- Call the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline on 1800 084 881
- Email biosecurity@dpi.nsw.gov.au with a clear photo, brief description and your contact details

For more information

Visit www.dpi.nsw.gov.au

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