





# Technical Bulletin for: Autumn Gum Moth

*Mnesampela privata* (Guenée) Lepidoptera: Geometridae • MNEPRI



<b>DISTRIBUTION</b>	Australia
<b>HOSTS</b>	Eucalyptus
<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	
<b>ADULT MOTH</b>	Light brown forewings with patches of reddish brown. The hind wings vary from yellow to orange. The moths have a wingspan of about 4cm.
<b>LARVAE</b>	Pale green with brown heads. At maturity, they are dark green.
<b>EGGS</b>	Eggs are oval in shape and pale green in color when first laid. They turn dark brown/black as they mature.
<b>LIFE HISTORY</b>	Eggs are laid in late summer/autumn through to winter. They are usually laid on the underside of the leaf, low down on the tree. Hatching occurs within 2-3 weeks. Larvae go through 5 stages and at the end of each stage shed their skin. The whole larval stage lasts for approximately 2 months, depending on temperature. Occasionally larvae may be found throughout the year. Fully fed larvae drop off the tree and burrow into the soil where they pupate. This stage may last 6-9 months after which time the adult moth emerges. Adults do not feed. They mate, lay eggs and die a short time later.

## MONITORING INFORMATION

<b>LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE &amp; FIELD LIFE</b>	NEED RELEASE DEVICE Field life: four (4) weeks.
<b>TRAP TO USE</b>	Paper or Plastic Delta  or Uni-Trap 
<b>MONITORING STRATEGY</b>	Traps should be hung at a height of approximately 1.5m from steel poles place a minimum of 30m from the edge of a plantation. The distance between traps should be a minimum of 30m. Check traps weekly. Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations.
<b>CULTURAL &amp; PHYSICAL CONTROLS</b>	Removal and destruction of infested material.

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Alpha Scents, Inc., 1089 Willamette Falls Drive, West Linn, OR 97068  
TEL: 503-342-8611 • FAX: 314-271-7297 • sales@alphascents.com • www.alphascents.com