

This short description was prepared in the framework of the EU FP7 project DROPSA - Strategies to develop effective, innovative and practical approaches to protect major European fruit crops from pests and pathogens (grant agreement no. 613678). This pest was listed in the DROPSA alert list for *Vaccinium* fruit.

Aroga trialbamaculella (Lepidoptera: Gelechiidae)

Fruit pathway: larvae contaminate fruit at harvest (IPM Centers, 1999; Averill and Sylvania, 1998).

Other pathways: plants for planting; larvae feed on leaves tied together (CAES, 2007; IPMCenters, 1999); eggs are on plants; the pest overwinters as mature larvae in the leaf litter, and pupae are in the leaf litter (IPMCenters, 1999).

Uncertain pathway: soil.

Hosts: *Vaccinium angustifolium* (Drummond et al., 2009; Averill and Sylvania, 1989), *Vaccinium* (as blueberry) (CAES, 2007), 'wild blueberries' (*V. angustifolium?*, *V. myrtilloides?*) (IPMCenters, 1999), *Vaccinium stamineum* (Busck, 1903). *V. corymbosum* (as highbush blueberries), various other *Vaccinium* and *Arbutus* (Averill and Sylvania, 1998).

Distribution: North America: Canada (Blatt et al, 1989); USA (CAES, 2007).

Damage: The pest causes feeding damage on leaves . 50% of stems may also be webbed together. It creates webs around the fruit, which may affect their growth and makes harvest difficult (Blatt et al, 1989). The importance of the pest had been increasing (IPMCenters, 1999). It was considered as a pest of lowbush blueberry in Maine (through contamination of harvested fruit), and minor elsewhere in Eastern USA (Averill and Sylvania, 1998).

Other information: In Maine, it is also found on managed wild plants (Drummond et al., 2009). Note: CAES (2007) uses the synonym *Gelechia trialbamaculella*.

Recorded impact: Moderate (in the past)	Intercepted: Not known	Spreading/invasive: Not known
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References:

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- Drummond F, Annis S, Smagula JM, Yarborough DE. 2009. Organic production of wild blueberries i. Insects and diseases. ISHS Acta Horticulturae 810: IX International Vaccinium Symposium
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