

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.

Orthosia hibisci (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae)

Fruit pathway: larvae feed on fruit (Martison and Kummer, no date, for cranberry; Howell, 2015; Alston et al., 2010; WSU, no date, for various fruit trees).

Other pathways: plants for planting, soil; larvae also feed on buds, flowers and leaves; eggs are on leaves; pupae are in the soil (Howell, 2015).

Hosts: Polyphagous on many trees and shrubs including: *Vaccinium macrocarpon* (AgricultureCanada, 2007), *Malus domestica* (CABI CPC), *Prunus* (as cherries, plums) (Alston et al., 2010), *Salix*, *Betula*, *Populus*, *Acer* (Alston et al., 2010; BugGuide, 2015).

Distribution: North America: Canada, USA (AgricultureCanada, 2007; CABI CPC). Uncertain record: Mexico (Lopez, 2007, indicating pests in 3 municipalities following a 3-year study; this record is considered uncertain only because of the nature of the publication – powerpoint).

Damage: On cranberry, the pest is reported to cause severe damage to leaves, buds and flowers (AgricultureCanada, 2007). It causes feeding damage to fruit trees, and high densities can cause localized defoliation; it is generally not a problem where insecticides are applied against other fruit insect pests (Alston et al., 2010). It is mentioned as a secondary pest of apple in Lopez (2007, for Mexico). In Canada, it is a pest of cranberry and an important pest of apple (Le Duc et al., 2004).

Recorded impact: Moderate	Intercepted: Not known	Spreading/invasive: Not known
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References:

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