

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 orange and mandarin fruit.

Prays endocarpa (Lepidoptera: Yponomeutidae)

Location of life stages on plant parts: eggs and larvae on fruit, pupae on fruits, stems or the edges of leaves (UK plant health service, unpublished PRA citing others). Larvae feed on the fruit rind (never enter endocarp) (EFSA, 2008).

Fruit pathway: yes, as eggs, larvae or pupae.

Other pathways: plants for planting.

Hosts: Citrus sinensis, Citrus (EPPO GD), and other Rutaceae, including *Aegle marmelos* (EFSA, 2008).

Distribution: Asia: India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka (EPPO GD), Vietnam (Vang, 2011), Thailand (French PRA, 2003); Oceania: Guam, Northern Mariana Islands (EPPO GD).

Damage: In most of its current range, *P. endocarpa* is considered a minor pest of citrus (Hill, 1983), but it is noted as an occasional pest in Malaysia and Thailand, and a key pest of oranges in Indonesia (French PRA, 2003). It is also mentioned as a pest of pomelo in Vietnam (Vang, 2011). In Indonesia, mandarins are not affected, but oranges and lemons may be severely attacked. In Thailand, it attacks grapefruit and limes. Lignified galls form around the site of larval activity. Generally the eating quality is not affected. If lignification extends into the fruit pulp, the fruit becomes unsuitable for direct consumption although the juice can still be used. Premature fruit fall may result from severe infestations (UK plant health service, unpublished PRA citing others).

Other information: Proposed in answer to the EPPO questionnaire on pests of concern for Citrus.

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

- EFSA. 2008. Pest risk assessment made by France on *Prays endocarpa* considered by France as harmful in French overseas departments of French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique and Réunion. Scientific Opinion of the Panel on Plant Health. The EFSA Journal (2008) 681, 1-16
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- Hill DS. 1983. Agricultural Insect Pests of the Tropics and Their Control. CUP Archive, 14 juil. 1983-760 pages
- Vang le V, Do ND, An le K, Son PK, Ando T. 2011. Sex pheromone components and control of the citrus pock caterpillar, *Prays endocarpa*, found in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam. J Chem Ecol. 2011 Jan;37(1):134-140.