

Achaea lienardi (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae)

This short description has been prepared in the framework of the EPPO Study on Pest Risks Associated with the Import of Tomato Fruit. The whole study can be retrieved from the EPPO website.

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Africa	Asia	Oceania	North America	South-Central America and Caribbean
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***Achaea lienardi* (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae)**

Why	Identified in the EPPO tomato study. It is mentioned as a pest of tomato in Ghana (Ghana IPM, 1996). Note: Little information was found on this pest.
Where	EPPO region: absent Africa: Cameroon, Congo Dem. Rep., Egypt, Eritrea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nigeria, Reunion, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe (African Moths, ND); Mauritius (Wikipedia)
Climatic similarity	low-medium. 6 common climates considering the countries listed above. This relatively high rating is due to the presence of arid-type climates in some countries especially South Africa, Zimbabwe, Egypt, Sudan.
On which plants	Citrus, tomato, cocoa (Ghana IPM, 1996), tomato (USDA, 2009). African Moths (ND) mention that larval hosts are: <i>Acacia mearnsii</i> , <i>Acacia karoo</i> , <i>Acacia ataxacantha</i> , <i>Acacia decurrens</i> , <i>Allophylus decipiens</i> , <i>Cirtus</i> , <i>Croton rivularis</i> , <i>Maerua triphylla</i> , <i>Pappea capensis</i> , <i>Pinus patula</i> , <i>Pyraoxylon obliquum</i> , <i>Rhus mucronifolia</i> , <i>Ricinus communis</i> , <i>Schotia latifolia</i> , <i>Scutia myrtina</i> , <i>Sideroxylon inerme</i> . It is not sure whether citrus, tomato and cocoa are hosts (i.e. whether eggs may be laid on these plants and larvae develop) or if their fruit only are attacked by adults.
Damage	Larvae feed on leaves; adults pierce ripe fruit to suck juice. No indication of damage was found.
Dissemination	Adult fly, larvae feed on leaves of their host plants. Adults feed nocturnally and are highly mobile, and USDA (2009) concluded that they are unlikely to be packed with fruit. Larvae may be associated with green parts, but only if tomato is a host of the pest (unknown, see comments above).
Pathway	Plants for planting? fruit? of host plants from countries where <i>A. lienardi</i> occurs. Unknown if pupae are in soil. Association with the pathway depends if the traded hosts (e.g. tomato, citrus) are hosts of immature stages.
Possible risks	Tomato and citrus are major crops in the EPPO region, but it is not certain whether they are true hosts, or whether only adults attack fruit (in which case association with traded hosts). The climatic similarity according to the EPPO Study between the area where it occurs and the EPPO region is low to medium, and common climates are arid climates of the Mediterranean Basin, especially in North Africa and the Near East. No information was found regarding biology, damage and control.
Categorization	None found
Sources	African Moths. No date. Website. http://www.africanmoths.com (Accessed August 2013) Ghana IPM. 1996. List of pests. http://ghana.ipm-info.org/list_insects.htm#Tomato (Accessed August 2013) USDA. 2009. Importation of Tomatoes, <i>Solanum lycopersicum</i> , from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) into the Continental United States. A Qualitative, Pathway-Initiated Pest Risk Assessment. June 5, 2009. Wikipedia