

AMERICAN LEAF MINER (*Liriomyza trifolii*)



The larvae are bright yellow maggots, up to about 3 mm long, without heads or legs. These larvae bore tunnels inside the leaves, causing stunted growth with a scorched appearance. The mature larvae cuts a hole in the leaf surface, drops to the ground and transforms into an orange-brown pupa. Adult flies are about 2 mm long with pale, brownish yellow undersides, black upper parts and a yellow spot between the wings.

Optimal conditions for damage

Leafminer flies attack many crops and are a serious threat where their natural enemies have been destroyed by the intensive use of insecticides.