

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 *Vitis* fruit.

***Nippoptilia vitis* (Lepidoptera: Pterophoridae)**

Fruit pathway: Larvae of *N. vitis* damage leaves, stems and fruit (Biosecurity New Zealand 2009). Damage results in severe fruit fall and partially abnormal fruit (Biosecurity Australia 2011). Larvae feed inside the fruit and seeds of grape, usually causing the young fruit to drop (Biosecurity Australia 2011a). The larvae bore into the fruit from the stem end, feeding on the pulp and seed, eggs are laid on pedicels within the grape bunch. The larvae pupate on leaves or on fruit. Some fruit shrink, dry and remain on the bunch, but most berries drop to the ground after 3-5 days (Biosecurity Australia 2011). The larvae are large. If they remain on grape bunches at harvest, they are likely to be detected and removed during harvesting or packing processes. One larva can damage over ten berries. Grape bunches with several berries missing are unlikely to be picked or packed for export (ADA 2014). There is an uncertainty if this species would be on the pathway.

Other pathways: Plants for planting, soil: The larvae also feed on the leaves, stems (Biosecurity New Zealand 2009) and flowers (Biosecurity Australia 2011) of grapevines. Adults overwinter in grasses, cracks in the soil or within dead branches or leaf folds (ADA 2014). In southern China are three generations a year and mature larvae overwinter in infested branches or leaf litter (Biosecurity Australia 2011).

Hosts: *Vitis vinifera* (main host), *Vitis thunbergii*, *Cayratia japonica*, *Ampelopsis brevipedunculata* (Yano 1963), *Parthenocissus tricuspidata* (Biosecurity New Zealand 2009)

Distribution: Asia: Japan, Korea, Thailand (Yano 1963), China, Taiwan (APHIS 2013), Nepal (Kim *et al.* 2010)

Damage: *N. vitis* larvae cause damage to the flowers, leaves, fruit, and stem of grapes. Each larva can attack more than 10 berries (Biosecurity Australia 2011). In Jilin province, China, *N. vitis* is one of the most significant grape pests. In recent years it has become a common pest in mountainous areas and backyard vineyards where it can cause serious yield reduction. In poorly-managed vineyards, up to 100% plants were infested, and 30-100% of fruit were damaged, causing significant decline in yield and fruit quality (Biosecurity Australia 2011). *N. vitis* has emerged as a pest of grapes in China in recent years (Biosecurity New Zealand 2009).

Other information: Adults of *N. vitis* are poor fliers and short-lived (mean 3-4days) (Biosecurity Australia 2011).

Impact: High	Intercepted: not known	Spreading/invasive: not known
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References:

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- Kim S, Choi H, Park K, Lee S 2010. *Taxonomic Review of the Genus Platyptilia Hübner (Lepidoptera, Pterophoridae) from Korea with the Description of a New species*. Just abstract available. <http://db.koreascholar.com/Article?code=291012>, accessed 14.10.2016.

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