Splendid piercer (= nut fruit tortrix)

- *Cydia splendana* Hübn. (= *C. triangulella* Goeze.)

The moth, which is captured in the trap

The body is 9-12 mm long, the wingspan is 14-22 mm. The colour of the forewing changes from whitish gray to brownish gray. It is darker towards the base, while it is light ashgray in the middle. The yellowish gray mirror is bordered by 4-6 black lines. The hindwing is brownish gray with a lighter fringe. The wings of its darker variety (*C. splendana* var. *reaumurana* Heinem.) are dark grayish brown, almost uniformly coloured, with a hardly visible pattern. The life habits of the two forms are similar.

Host plants of the larva include: chestnut, oak. Damage: the young caterpillar bores a short gallery between the core and the outer skin of the chestnut, then bores into the core. Chestnuts damaged fall down to the ground, before the larva would finish its development. A damaged acorn looks wrinkled, dull, and it rattles when shaked. However, usually it is quite difficult to tell apart a damaged chestnut from a healthy one.

The damage of the larva, which should be averted

The pheromone trap should be suspended from branches as high as possible (i.e. 4.0-4.5 m or higher) in the upper part of the tree canopy. The small catches of traps set up lower (easily reachable by a man) are usually unreliable. (Usual beginning of trapping in Hungary is middle of July.

Selectivity of the CSALOMON® trap (based on tests performed in Hungary): in the flight period of *C. splendana* no other tortricids are attracted in high numbers.

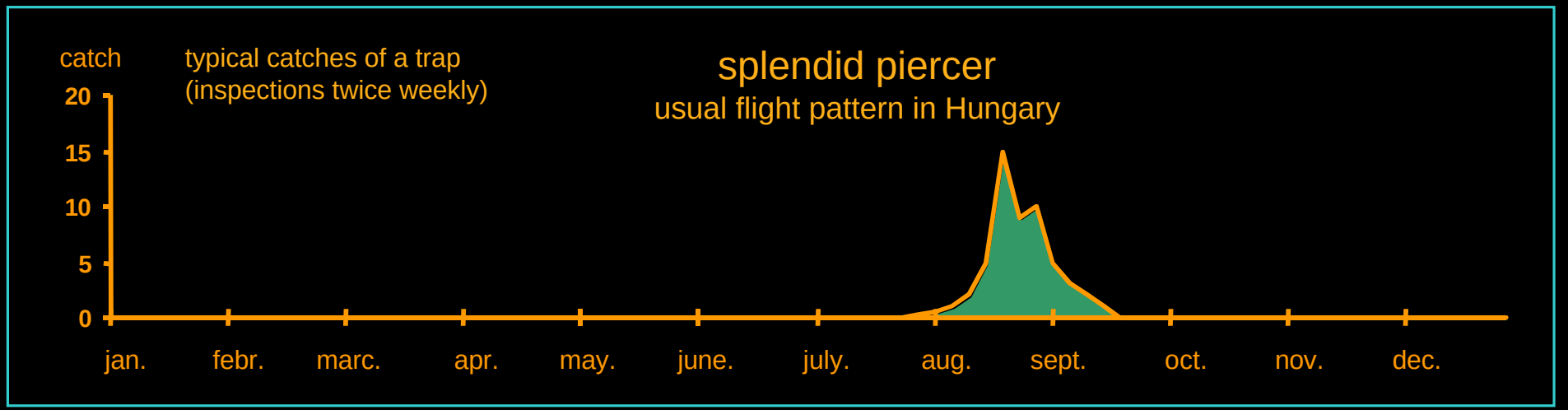
Longevity of the CSALOMON® trap in field conditions: depending on the warmth of the weather at least 4-6 weeks. After this period we suggest to set up a new trap for most effective detection and monitoring. Renewal of sticky inserts in intervals of 7-10 days. In case of high catches this may become necessary more often.

For reliable detection and monitoring one pair of traps should be operated per 1-5 ha.

Although spraying in a chestnut grove is technically not easy, when applying an insecticide treatment timed to the beginning of the flight the damage can be decreased[1]. In case of mass outbreaks several sprayings may become necessary.

Since mature larvae coming out of the chestnuts overwinter in the soil, the population of next season can be suppressed if falling chestnuts are collected at short intervals, and are stored in a container closed at the bottom[2]. The great number of larvae collecting in the bottom of the container can easily be disposed of.

[1] *Bürgés, Gy., Eke, I., Gál, T.: Növényvédelem. 10:110-114., 1974.* [2] *Radócz L. and Bürgés Gy.: Növényvédelem. 40:75-87., 2004.*



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So it looks when caught in the CSALOMON® RAG trap!