

# Spring umber - *Erannis (Agriopis) leucophaearia* Den. & Schiff.



*A wingless female*

The wingspan of the male moth is 28-34 mm. The background colour of the forewings is very variable, usually it is gray, among the patterns the zigzagging lines and bands are darker grey or black, while some dots and patches are lighter than the background. Black specimens (melanism) are also frequent. On these specimens the patterns are hardly visible. Very light specimens can also be found. The hindwings are white with dark gray dusting. The antennae are comb-shaped. Only the males have wings, the females are totally wingless, they can only crawl with their legs.

The host plants of the larva include many orchard trees. Its damage is more frequent in the vicinity of forests. Usually it causes damage jointly with other geometrid spp. Among forestry trees the caterpillars prefer oaks, birches, but it can survive on many other deciduous trees.

**Damages:** in the spring the young hatchlings chew on the buds from the outside, then they damage the bursting leaves and flowers. Later on they cause lobe-shaped feeding damage on the large leaves.

The CSALOMON® pheromone trap should be placed at the height of 1.0 - 1.5 m near the trunks of trees. Usual starting date for trapping is beginning of February (Hungary).



*The male moth, which is captured in the trap*

**Selectivity of the CSALOMON® trap** (based on tests performed in Hungary): the geometrid *Erannis aurantiaria* could in theory be captured in larger numbers, since the composition of its pheromone is similar. However, *E. aurantiaria* flies in the autumn. A CSALOMON® pheromone trap may start slowly to decrease its attractive activity after 6-8 weeks of field exposure (depending on actual weather conditions). This is usually enough to cover all the yearly flight period of the species.



*The damage of the larva, which should be averted*

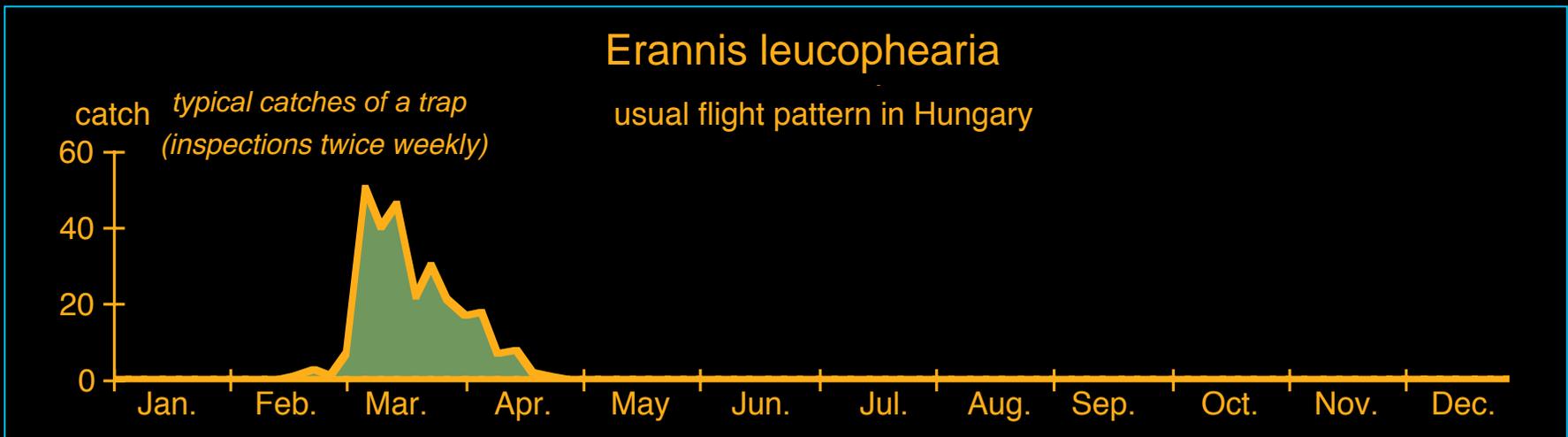
**Trap design recommended:** For detection our sticky trap design (RAG) is most suitable. It proved to be excellent and very sensitive for detection of occurrence of the species.

The sticky insert can become saturated with captured specimens within a relatively short period (1-2 days even) at high population densities, so frequent renewal of sticky inserts may become necessary.

For catching large numbers of moths and/or for quantitative monitoring (i.e. monitoring of flight dynamics) the funnel (VARL+) design can be recommended. When using the funnel design it is advisable to kill the moths captured by placing a killing agent into the catch container

Pheromone traps can be used for detecting the occurrence and for monitoring the flight pattern of the pest. The pheromone of this pest has been recently characterized.[1]

[1] Szócs G. és mtsi., *J. Chem. Ecol.* 19: 2721-2735, 1993.



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