

## Hollyhock groundling - *Pexicopia (Platyedra) malvella* Hbn.

The wingspan of the moth is 17-20 mm. The background colour of the forewings is golden yellow, on the basal part of the wing there are 2 blurred black dots. The light transversal band is bordered from both sides by a broad darker shadow. The fringe is light. The hindwings are light gray.

The host plants of the larva include: malvaceous plants, *Malva* és *Althaea* spp., medicinal herbs and ornamentals, and also cotton.

Damage: the caterpillar chews around the pod from the inside, destructing many seeds. The pheromone trap should be suspended at the level of vegetation, typically at a height of 1.0-1.5 m. Usual beginning of trapping in Hungary is beginning of June.

Selectivity of the CSALOMON® trap (based on tests performed in Hungary): in some years it can capture sizeable numbers of the Angoumois grain moth *Sitotroga cerealella*, as some components of their pheromones are similar. This moth has very narrow, sharpened wings, with light straw-yellow colour.

Longevity of the CSALOMON® trap in field conditions: depending on the warmth of the weather at least 4-6 weeks.

After this period it is best to replace the trap for most sensitive monitoring.

Renewal of sticky inserts in intervals of 7-10 days. In case of high catches this may become necessary more often.

The CSALOMON® pheromone traps can be used for detecting the occurrence and for monitoring the flight pattern of the pest.



*The moth, which is captured in the trap*

In Central Europe usually only one generation develops, toward the south several generations are possible. Based on our catches forecast of gradations becomes possible. Few papers deal with pheromonal communication of this gelechiid species.[1]

[1] Tóth M., Sziráki Gy. & Szócs G. *Entomol. exp. appl.*, 40:137, 1986.



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Fotó: Tóth M..

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

