Cherry fruit fly - *Rhagoletis cerasi* L. and **eastern cherry fruit fly** *R. cingulata* Loew

The body of the cherry fruit fly is 3-4 mm long, the basic colour is black. The head is yellowish brown, the thorax is yellow near the basal part of the wings. The wings are with large black spots. The abdomen is also black, by some specimens the back edge of the segments may be yellowish. The eastern cherry fruit fly is somewhat larger, can be told apart mainly on the basis of wing pattern differences (see Fig.)

www.agronaplo.hu

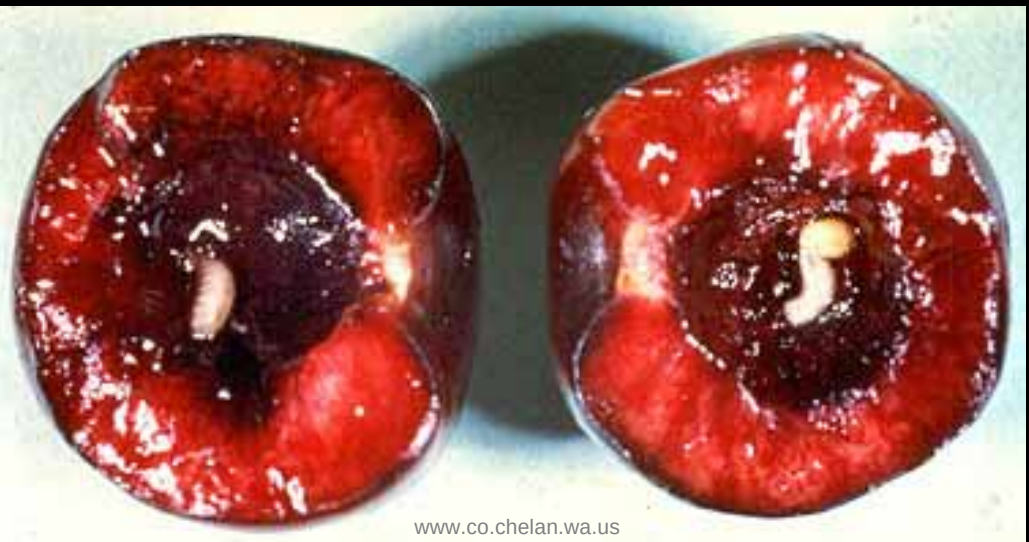
R. cerasi
zoology.fns.uniba.sk

R. cingulata
www.ipmcenters.org

The flies, which are captured in the trap

The host plant of the larva is cherry, sour cherry. The larva lives inside the fruit, feeding on the flesh. When opening a damaged cherry the ca 5 mm long, whitish maggot can be found near the region around the seed. In Europe the cherry fruit fly is a determining pest of cherry and sour cherry production, with no control measures damages can go up to even 50 - 100%!

It is of utmost importance that the trap be set to the top region of the tree canopy, to a sunny place. The flies do not like dark, shady places. Usual beginning of trapping in Central Europe is end of April, but because of the usually prolonged flight of the eastern cherry fruit fly it is advisable to continue trapping to the end of August.


www.co.chelan.wa.us

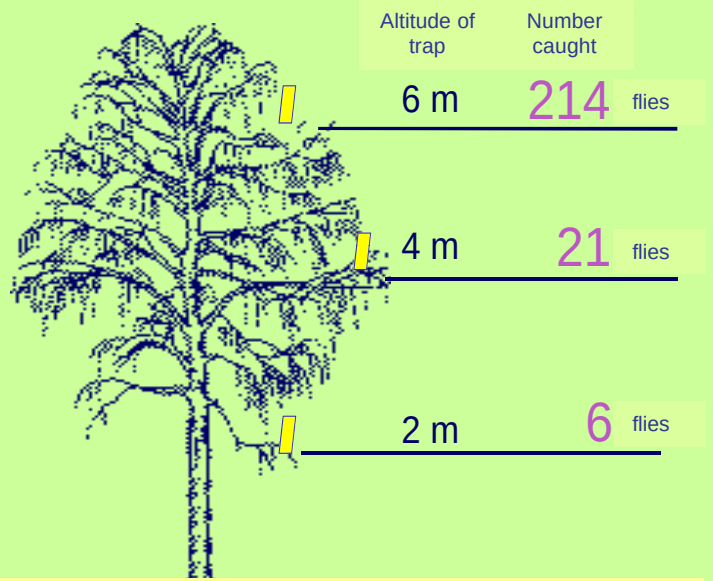
The damage of the maggot, which should be averted

Selectivity of the CSALOMON® PALz trap (based on tests performed in Hungary): the trap catches both *R. cerasi* and *R. cingulata* equally well. Apart from the cherry fruit flies the fluorescent yellow colour of the trap will attract
many other insects as well. Both cherry fruit fly species captured can be recognized by the characteristic wing pattern and the yellow colour on the thorax.

Longevity of the CSALOMON® PALz trap in field conditions: The yellow colouring of the trap is predominantly responsible for attraction of the cherry fruit fly. The bait dispenser supplied contains an activity enhancing attractant, which is NOT a pheromone, rather a food attractant. This bait can increase catches by about 50-70%. In contrast to pheromone traps, the trap will catch both male and female cherry fruit flies. Efficacy of the trap is retained until all of the sticky surface is covered by captured insects. This can happen within 6-8 weeks, depending on weather conditions.Traps can be used for detection of occurrence and for monitoring the flight of the cherry fruit fly. Insecticide sprayings can be timed according to the catch patterns recorded in our traps, and the ripening characteristics of the given cultivar.
According to Swiss experience, in backyard gardens, organic farms, etc. cherry fruit fly damage can effectively be decreased by the continous application of 2-8 traps per tree[1].

The larva and its damage, which should be averted

The eastern cherry fruit fly originates from North America, and appeared in Europe in the eighties. According to experience its flight starts later (middle/ end of June) than that of the European cherry fruit fly and it continues to fly also after harvest (middle / end of August)[3].
R. cingulata is listed as a quarantine pest on list A2 (239) of EPPO. If its occurrrence is detected, measures should be taken accordingly.



Catches of cherry fruit flies in traps at different altitude [2]

[1] *Szeöke K., Növényvédelem, 42:470, 2006; Dér Zs. és Szeöke K., XXVII. Int. Term. Kert. Szántóf. Kult., 22-27, 2006.* [2] *Tóth, M. et al, Növényvédelem, 40:229-236, 2004.* [3]*Lampe I. és mtsi, Obstbau, 31:414-416, 2006;*

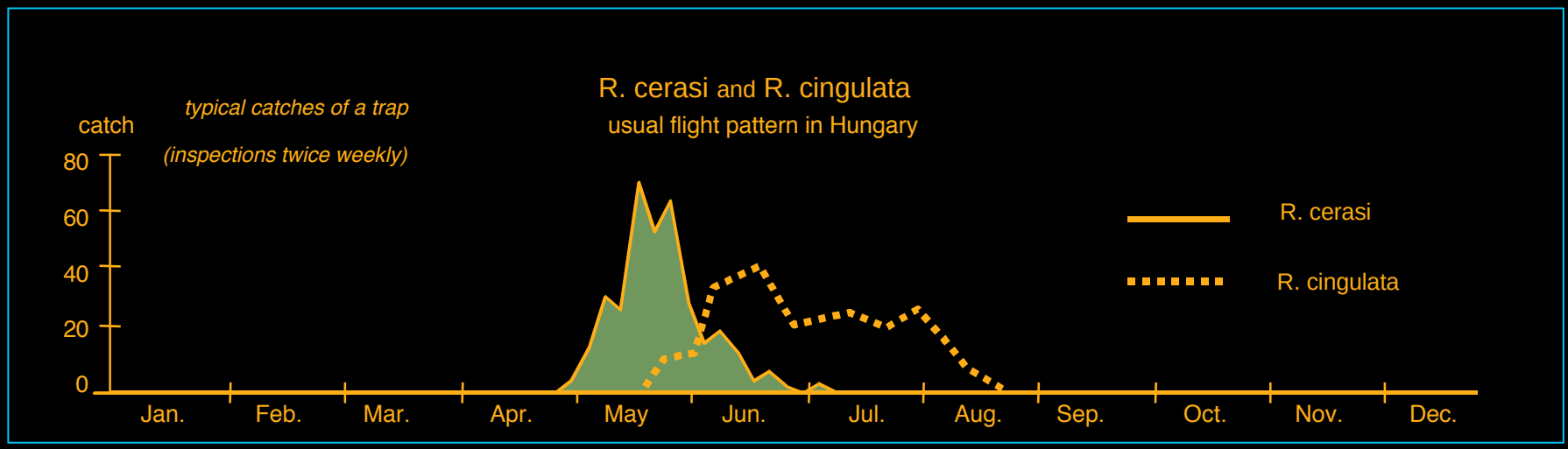


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Photo: Tóth M.

Photo: Nagy Z. L.

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