

## Walnut husk fly - *Rhagoletis completa* Cresson.

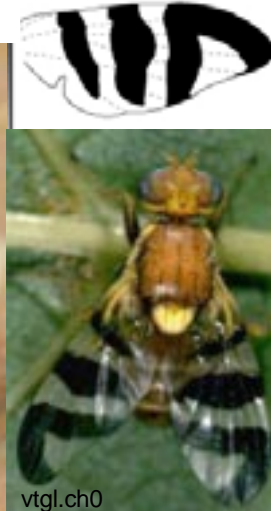
The wingspan of the walnut husk fly is 8-10 mm. The fly is brown, the head is yellow, the eyes are dark. The thorax is dark, with a yellow semicircle on the scutellum and yellow colour at the base of the wings. The abdomen is black, with yellow stripes. The wings are transparent with black patches. The larvae are dirty white, they are 6 mm long when mature. The pupae can be found in the soil.

Host plants of the larva include walnuts and relatives. According to some US authors it can also attack peaches.

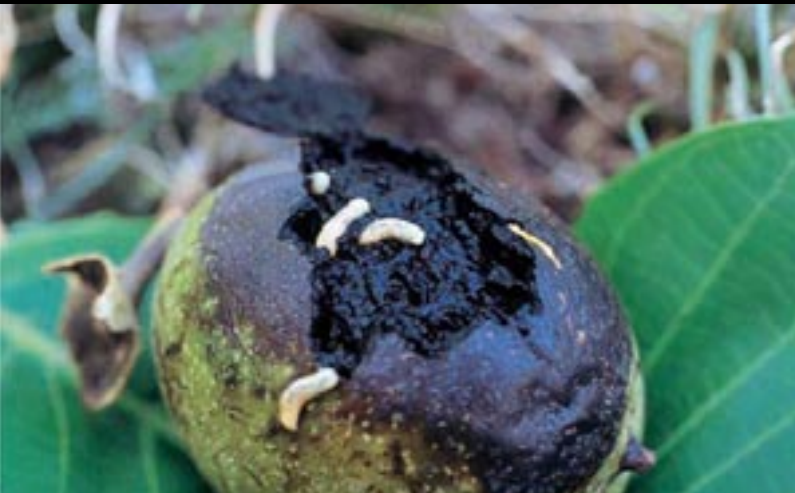
**Damage:** the green husk of the walnuts gets black and mushy, and one can find the maggots within. The walnuts attacked at an early stage can remain small. There can remain black patches on the hard nutshell, so this can result in significant quality decrease. The damage of the walnut husk fly can be confounded with damage of the bacterial disease *Xanthomonas campestris* cv. *juglandis*.

Set the trap in the top region of the tree canopy (level of walnuts forming), to a sunny place. The flies do not like dark, shady places. Usual beginning of trapping in Central Europe is middle of July, but because of the usually prolonged flight of the walnut husk fly it is advisable to continue trapping to the middle of October.

**Selectivity** of the CSALOMON® PALz walnut husk fly trap (based on tests performed in Croatia): in the vicinity of cherry orchards the trap catches both *R. cerasi* and *R. cingulata*, which are smaller than the walnut husk fly, and can be told apart by the characteristic wing pattern and the yellow colour on the thorax. Due to the fluorescent yellow colour of the trap it will attract many other insects as well. The walnut husk fly can be recognized based on its characteristic wing pattern and colouring.



*The fly which is captured in the trap*



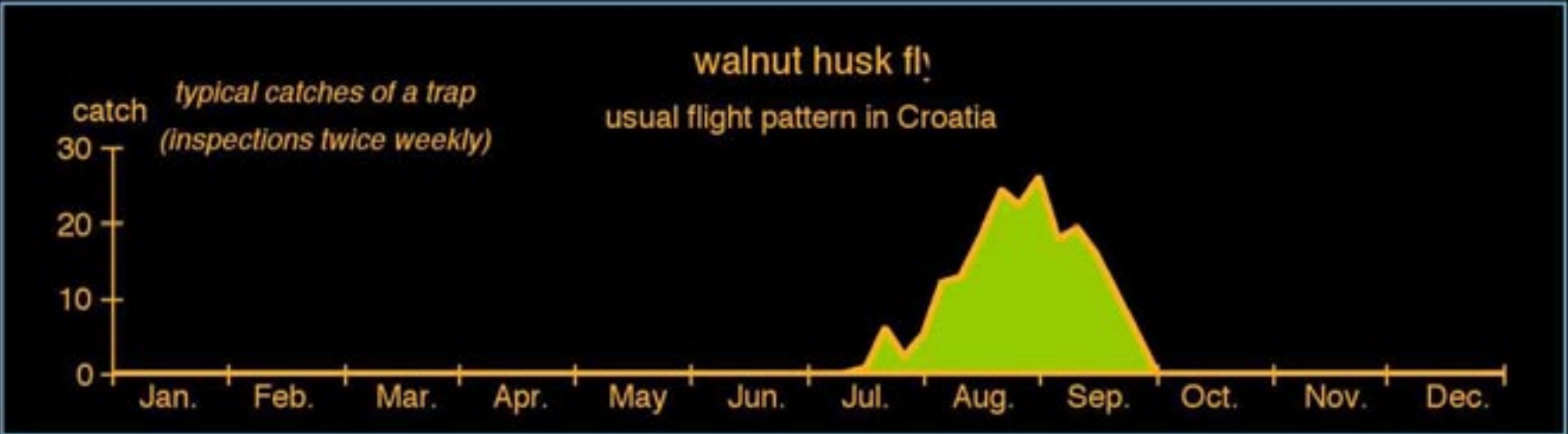
*The damage of the larva, which should be averted*

**Longevity of the CSALOMON® PALz trap in field conditions:** The fluorescent yellow colouring of the trap is predominantly responsible for attraction of the walnut husk fly, however, catches are significantly increased by the addition of the synthetic food attractant (the composition of which is identical to the food attractant used for catching the cherry fruit flies *R. cerasi* and *R. cingulata*). In contrast to pheromone traps, the trap will catch both male and female walnut husk 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.

The traps can be used for **early detection** and to **monitor the flight pattern** of the walnut husk fly. This species occurred originally in North America, but has been first detected in Europe in 1991 in Switzerland and Italy [1]. In recent years it has been reported from Slovenia, Croatia, Austria, Germany and France[2].

*R. completa* is on the Eu Annex I/A1 list of pests.

[1] Merz, B. *Mitt. Schweiz. ent. Ges.*, 64:55-57(1991); Duso, C. (1991) *Boll. Zool. Agrar. Bachicoltura* 23:203-209, (1991)... [2] Seljak G. *Rev. Sadjar. Vinograd. Vinar.o* 10:12-15,(1999); Mani E., *Mitt. Schweiz. ent. Ges.*, 67:177-182, (1994)



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So the insect looks,  
which is caught in the  
CSALOMON® PALz trap!



Photo: B. Baric

