

Beet moth - *Scrobipalpa ocellatella* Boyd

The body is 5-7 mm long, the wingspan is 10-14 mm. The forewings are very narrow, elongated. The basic colour is dull grey-brown or yellowish-brown.

The pattern consists of not too conspicuous, lighter patches. A small black dot should be mentioned, which is situated in the middle of the wing, slightly towards the apex.

This is surrounded by a thin lighter ring. However, even this "ocellum" is not too conspicuous.

The basic colour of the hindwings is yellowish grey, their shape is characteristically sharpening into a beak-like shape at the upper corner. There are fringes at the apex.

The **host plants** of the larva include **sugar-beet**, beet-root, cattle-turnip and mangold, but it can develop also on wild *Beta* spp.

Damage: the newly hatched caterpillar peels the leaves, then it hides in the petioles and among the central leaves. On hot, dry summers it can bore into the upper part of the beet. Through its damage the leaves take a cigar-like shape, get curly, later on they turn to brownish and black. Older leaves when damaged can break down, as if they had been trodden upon. Occasionally the larvae can damage also the flowers and seed glomerules.



The moth, which is captured in the trap



The pheromone trap should be suspended at the level of the **top** of vegetation. Usual beginning of trapping in Hungary is **end of April**. **Selectivity** of the **CSALOMON®** trap (based on tests performed in Hungary): smaller numbers of other gelechiids can be captured, depending on the site.

The damage of the larva, which should be averted

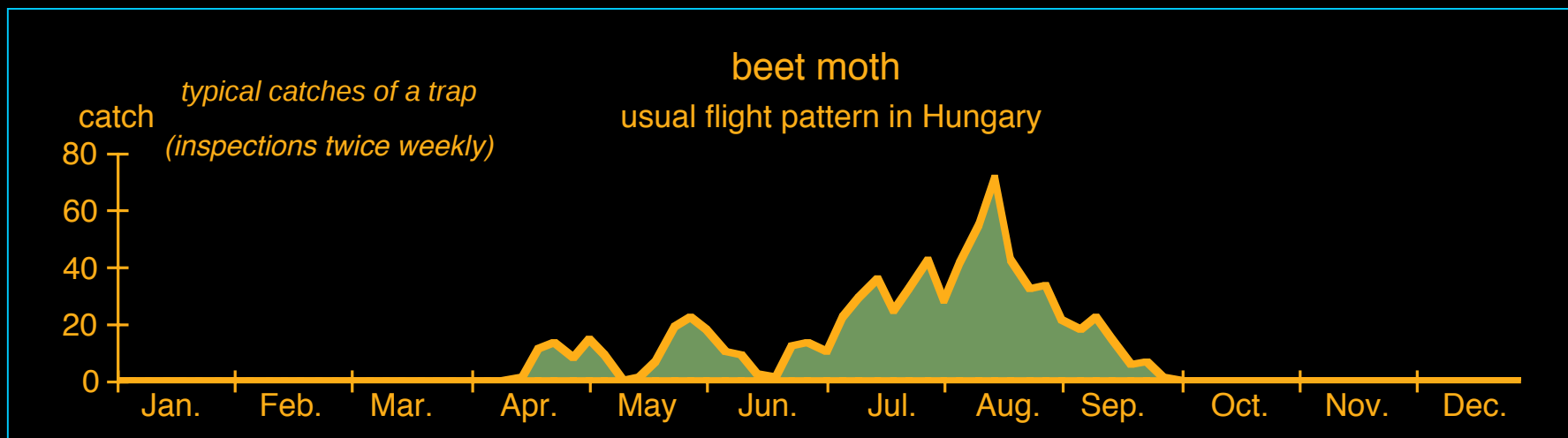
All of these species are larger in size than the beet moth, and can be told apart on the basis of the wing pattern.

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.

Pheromone traps are ideal for the monitoring of the flight pattern and the timely detection of a mass outbreak. Control measures are most efficient if applied against the young larvae. In hot, dry summers several generations can develop, which can grow in numbers especially in the second half of the summer. The composition of the pheromone has been described from a French population.[1]

[1] Renou M. et al. Z. Angew. Entomol. J. Appl. Entomol., 90:275-289, 1980.



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Photo: Nagy Z. L.



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