

# Bugs & Blights

Sharon J. Collman | WSU Snohomish County Extension



**Pear slugs and cherry slugs** - skeletonize leaves of apricot, cherry, cotoneaster, hawthorn, mountain ash, pear, and plum, leaving only the veins and ventral epidermis. The larvae, feed on cherry, plum, apricot, pear, hawthorn and mountain ash. Usually, the damage is light from the first generation. But they can build up in the second generation and do some serious defoliation. If the spring generation seems to be light, ignore them. Parasitoids may do your work for you limiting the second generation. In some years a third generation may materialize, but the plants will be losing their leaves shortly anyway. <http://whatcom.wsu.edu/ag/homehort/pest/pearslug.htm>,



**Lorquin's admiral** - larvae overwinter in little hibernacula on apple, cottonwood, poplar, or willow. The fresh adults show up a bit before June and fly through the early summer. The larvae look a bit like bird droppings. On my apple tree one larva ate six leaves. Not enough to fret over. [www.butterfliesandmoths.org/species/Limenitis-lorquini](http://www.butterfliesandmoths.org/species/Limenitis-lorquini)



**ASyrphid fly larvae** - are voracious predators of aphids. Adults lay a single oval white egg among the aphids. When the caterpillar-like larva hatches, lunch is just millimeters away. The larva is normally stretched out with a pointy head end (no head capsule) and moves by raising up the pointy end and moving back and forth in search of aphids. The adult is called a hover fly (often yellow and black) for it's ability to hover in the air, or flower fly since the adults are also good pollinators.

**Azalea sawfly** - has been stripping foliage of the *R. mollis* and *R. occidentale* azaleas. Larvae are exactly matched to leaf color and they feed from the side edge of the leaf, curling their body along the edge of the damaged area. Sawflies typically eat foliage until they are stopped by veins. As they get older then can bite through the smaller veins and until they get to the midvein. Sawflies typically eat fast and furious and are gone till next year.



Products registered for homeowner use can be found at <http://pep.wsu.edu/hortsense/>  
Caution: there may be different labels for tree fruits than for ornamentals.