

**THE SAWFLY ASH PESTS (HYMENOPTERA, TEHTHREDINIDA)
FROM THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**

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In addition to native pest species the latest pathogenically agent invasions, especially of insects cause severe damage to the tree species from the green zones of the towns, along the sides of the roads; from the Forest Fond of the Republic of Moldova, and orchards, etc. Ash trees represent an important component in the formation of forest ecosystems in the Republic of Moldova. The studies were done during 2013 – 2023, with the main objective of identifying the impact of insect pests on ash ecosystems in conditions of the Republic of Moldova. The observations were made in the ash woods from different parts of the republic, especially those from the Moldavian Plateau; of the Forest Enterprises Chisinau, Tighina, Rezeni, Telenesti, Orhei, Nisporeni; Scientific Reserve „Codrii” and certainly from the Scientific Reserve „Plaiul Fagului” where ash is one of the dominant species. Preliminary research was carried out in sub-plots with a minimum of 30% ash in the composition, having an area of 3.0 ha. Apart from this, the object of the research was also the stands with 10-20% ash but growing in pure groups. The route was always chosen spontaneously, in the direction that intersects the subplot diagonally, and the defoliation degree (with a gradation of 10%) of 25 ash trees was visually appreciated. The route is required to cover 3/4 of the supervised distance of the subplot. As the result of the investigation was established that these three species have a generation annually and hibernate in the pre-pupal stage - eonymph. In addition, the privet sawflies are native poly- and oligophages, among the fodder plants of which are common ash (*F. excelsior*). Primary damages caused by the ash sawfly larvae consist of perforated leaves by the young larvae, and then leaf consumption, leaving only the area between the veins. Adult caterpillars eat leaves completely, leaving only the central vein. The defoliation caused by the larvae of the last ages, which are very voracious, in the maximum or eruption phases of outbreaks, can reach up to 80-200 percent. Secondary damage consists of laying eggs by females by the instrumentality of the lightly sclerotized ovipositor into the tissue of the lower epidermis of newly emerged foliage, mainly near the central vein; as a result of this, the leaves are slightly distorted.

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