

A Bug's Life

Hawthorn leafminer

Profenusa canadensis

Fun facts

- Damage done by larval sawflies, which are non-stinging wasps
- Larvae feed between upper and lower layers of leaf
- Leaf damage visible in May and June
- Overwinter in soil as pupae
- 1 generation per year
- Damage is mostly aesthetic

Identification

Damage: Brown, dry leaf tips and margins, blotch mines (resembles frost damage or disease), may see frass or larvae inside leaf if held up to sun

Larva: Up to 3/8" long, light-colored, transparent, wormlike

Adult: 5/32" inch, dark wasp

Management

- Foliar insecticides are not necessary as new growth in midsummer conceals damage
- Choose less susceptible hawthorn cultivars to prevent leafminers
- Soil applied systemic insecticides may be effective with sufficient time to translocate to the leaves



Photos: J. Green