

Pest Profile



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Common Name: Birch Leafminer

Scientific Name: *Fenusa pusilla*

Order and Family: Hymenoptera: Tenthredinidae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg		
Larva/Nymph	6.5mm	Yellowish-white, slightly flattened.
Adult	6.5mm	Black, thick-waisted wasps
Pupa (if applicable)		

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Chewing

Host plant/s: Nearly all species of birch are hosts.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): The larvae develop within the leaf tissue creating large, dark kidney-shaped blotch mines. The mined areas become light brown and wrinkled, and leaf loss is common on heavily infested trees. Repeated defoliation can increase susceptibility to infestation of other insects and pathogens. Most trees can withstand leafminer damage, but severe stress in conjunction with high leafminer population can lead to tree death.

References:

Cranshaw, W. (2004). *Garden Insects of North America: The Ultimate Guide To Backyard Bugs*. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press.

Hahn, J., & Ascerno, M. (2009). *Birch Leafminers*. University of Minnesota Extension. Retrieved from: <http://www.extension.umn.edu/garden/insects/find/birch-leafminers/>