

# Pear Slug/Pear Sawfly (*Caliroa cerasi*)

March, 2016

Pear sawfly prefers pear and cherry hosts but will also attack the leaves of plum, quince and occasionally apple. Larvae feed on the upper surface of pear and cherry leaves removing the green epidermis. High populations can defoliate trees. The adult is a glossy black wasp about 5 mm long. Larvae resemble small, black, elongate slugs, hence the common name pear slug. There are two generations a year. Pear saw fly overwinters as a pupa in a cocoon deep in the soil. Monitor by looking for slug-like larvae especially in the summer when populations can build up rapidly and cause severe damage. There is no information on natural enemies of pear saw fly in the B.C. interior. Conventional insecticides applied against other insect pests generally control pear sawfly. Malathion and Sevin sprays will also control the larvae.



*Pear slug larvae*



*Pear slug adult*



*Pear slug feeding damage on pear*



*Late-season injury to pear*