



Nantucket

Pine Tip Moth

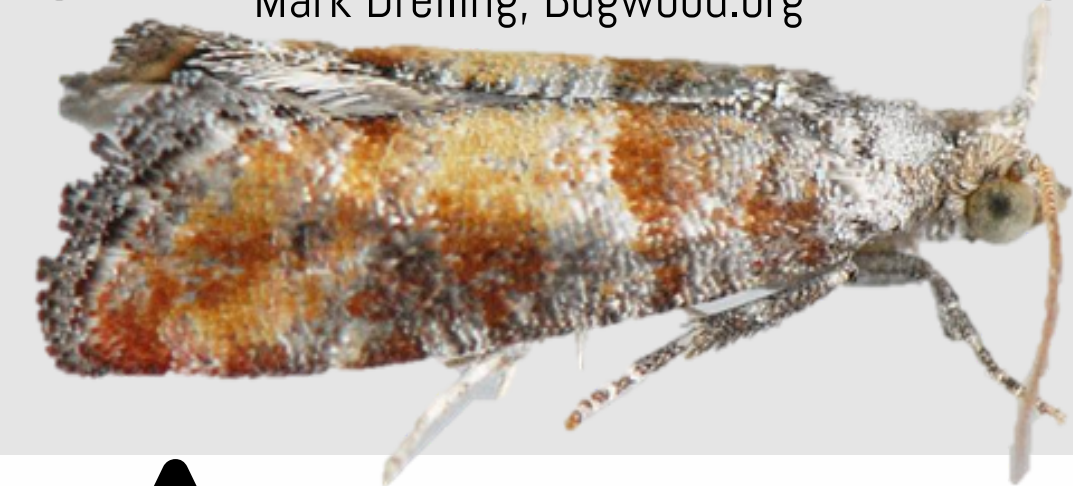
Family: Tortricidae
Species: *Rhyacionia frustrana*

◀ Moth Facts ▶

- This moth was named in 1880 when they were found infesting pitch pine on Nantucket Island, Massachusetts
- Larvae bore into shoots of many pine species, which kills the shoots, particularly the topmost shoot
- NPTM feeding can cause stem form issues in the first few years of pine growth, which is an economic problem in young pine plantations (1-5 years)
- Adult moths are most active right before dusk

0mm 8mm

Mark Dreiling, Bugwood.org



Appearance

Wing pattern color includes patches of copper and orange separated by irregular gray and white bands

Damage to Shoots

Elizabeth McCarty, University of Georgia



Adult Moth

James A. Richmond, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org



◀ Life Cycle ▶

Adult//

Female moths release sex pheromones to attract the males, leading to egg fertilization.

Egg//

Females lay fertilized eggs one by one at the base of a pine needle or on the bark of a branch

Pupa//

Pupae are cased within a previously infested shoot. Overwintering occurs with pupae from the last generation of the year.

Larvae//

There are five phases within this stage. Larvae damage the shoots, particularly the topmost shoot, which can lead to stem form issues

Pine tip moth can repeat this cycle anywhere from 2 to 5 times a year



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