

METALLIC PINE PITCH NODULE MAKER—*Retinia metallica*

HOSTS: Ponderosa, jack, Austrian, and other pines

IDENTIFICATION, LIFE CYCLE, AND DAMAGE: Larvae are about 10 mm in length and are pink or cream with dark heads. Moths are mottled gray and white and have a wingspan of 7 to 10 mm.

Larvae overwinter inside the mined tip and pupate in their galleries during the spring. During May or early June moths emerge and lay eggs in the new growth. Larvae mine new shoot growth and buds throughout the summer. During July, a pitch nodule or round pinkish-maroon mass composed of pitch, sawdust, and insect excrement is formed at the point of attack.

Branch growth is stunted and tips are frequently killed. Heavily infested trees have excessive branching.

CONTROL: No insecticide is currently registered for this insect. Contact your local extension service for more information.



Nodule of metallic pine pitch nodule maker



Metallic pine pitch nodule maker larva