

FALL WEBWORM



Another caterpillar pest may be appearing in your trees in late summer. The Fall Webworm has one of the largest host ranges of any caterpillar and may feed on more than 100 species of deciduous trees and shrubs. Some of the more preferred trees are Chokeberry, Elm, Sweetgum, Oak, Poplar and Various fruit trees. The larvae of this pest feed on the leaves and create ugly silken tents on the branch ends of host plants. They feed inside the web and enlarge it as they grow. This caterpillar spends the winter as a pupa in a cocoon that can be found in bark crevices or in the debris on the ground near trees. The adults begin to emerge in June and July and will lay masses of eggs on the undersides of leaves. It is not too late to treat this pest when you start to see the webs in your trees. Keep an eye on your trees for the next couple of months so that this pest is not able to cause serious damage in your trees.

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