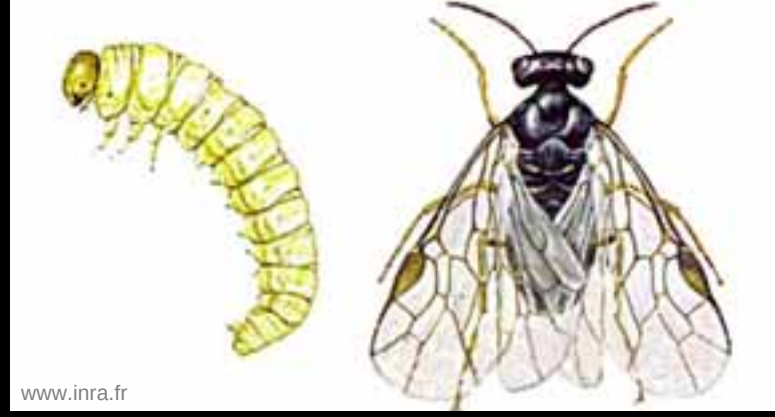
# **Plum sawfly -** *Hoplocampa flava* L. and **plum fruit sawfly -** *Hoplocampa minuta* Christoph




***The sawfly, which is captured in the trap***

The size of these small wasps is 4-5 mm. The vein system is well visible on their two pairs of round-shaped wings. The abdomen is large, round, it is not separated clearly from the thorax. They fly during daytime, preferring sunshine. The body colour of *H. flava* is brownish or reddish yellow, while that of *H. minuta* is black.
The host plant of the larva is plums, apricots, *Prunus cerasifera,* rarely cherries and sour cherries, in case of *H. flava* also *Prunus spinosa*. The adults feed on pollen and nectar. Apart from the host plants listed above, the adults prefer to feed on flowers of almonds, pears, apples, or *Forsitia.* The eggs are laid on the calyx of the flowers, and the larvae hatching right after blossoming bore into the developing small fruit. Later entrance and exit holes can more frequently found on the downward side of the fruit. The larva feeds first of all on the seed (before the formation of the stone wall) and the flesh of the fruit around the seed. Inside the damaged fruit there is grainy black faeces, its grains can break out to the surface of the fruit. This faeces and especially the larva itself has a characteristic bug smell. Damaged plums will fall down usually by the first half of June.
The PALf white sticky trap should be placed to the upper part of the crown of the trees, so that the white surface can


***The damage of the larva, which should be averted***

be reached by sunshine as long as possible during the day. After blossoming starts sometimes it is more advantegous to suspend traps from wires in between trees [1]. Usual beginning of trapping in Hungary is beginning of April.

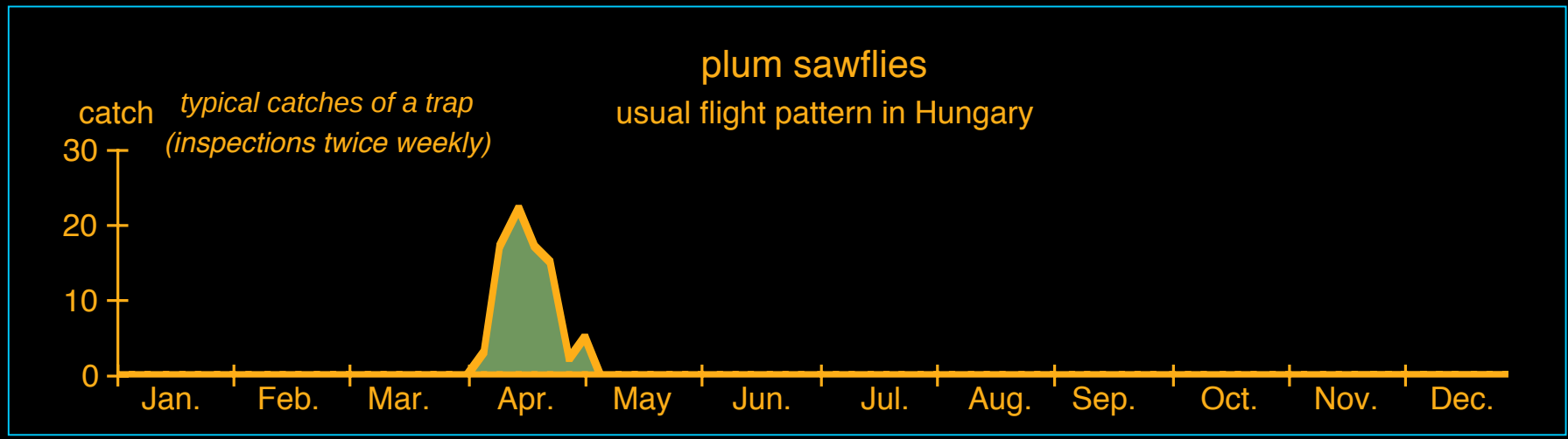
Selectivity of the CSALOMON® trap (based on tests performed in Hungary): apart from *Hoplocampa* spp. many other flying insects can be caught randomly (just by alighting on the sticky surface). One can easily tell apart from these the *Hoplocampa* wasps by their characteristic outlook and wingshape. Sometimes beneficial insects (i.e. microscopic parasitoid wasps, etc.) can also be trapped; we can diminish their purposeless eradication if we do not leave the traps on the trees long after the flight of the target *Hoplocampa* wasps is over.

According to literature data apart from the two *Hoplocampa* wasps mentioned here white sticky traps have successfully been used for trapping several other pests, i.e. *Hoplocampa brevis, H. testuidinea, Quadraspidiotus perniciosus*, *Byturus tomentosus*, several Diptera, etc.


***The larva and its damage, which should be averted***

Longevity of the CSALOMON® trap in field conditions: In this trap type insects are attracted by the visual cue of the bright white colour of the trap. The trap remains effective as long as the sticky surface is not totally covered by captured insects. This usually happens only after 6-8 weeks of field exposure, which period is definitely enough to fully cover the usual yearly flight period of the *Hoplocampa* wasps
By applying white traps we can detect the occurrence and monitor the flight of the target insects. Insecticide treatments can be optimally timed according to catch figures.

[1] *Blaisinger P., Z. ang. Ent. 77:353-357 1975.*





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or <h2371tot@ella.hu>; internet: <http://www.julia-nki.hu/traps/>.


Photo: Nagy Z. L.


So it looks when caught in the CSALOMON® PALf trap!