

## LOOK OUT FOR POPLAR SAWFLY, NOT KNOWN TO BE ESTABLISHED IN NEW ZEALAND

Recently, a single poplar sawfly, *Cladius grandis* (Tenthredinidae), larva was detected in a gypsy moth trap in Dunedin. If you believe you have found poplar sawfly please call MPI on **0800 80 99 66**.

### What does a poplar sawfly look like?

Adults: 6-9mm; overall reddish yellow, head and part of thorax black; wings yellowish hyaline strongly iridescent, venation reddish yellow.

Larvae: up to 16mm; overall yellow with two lateral rows of black spots (dorsal much larger than ventral) and whitish hairs; head blackish and brownish except some yellow spots on the frontal part.



**Poplar sawfly (left to right):** top row (adult and young larva); middle row (grown larva and feeding); bottom row (pupa and feeding damage)

### Hosts

Host plants include species from Family Salicaceae: *Populus alba*, *P. balsamifera*, *P. canadensis*, *P. dilatata*, *P. monilifera*, *P. nigra*, *P. tremula*, *P. pyramidalis*, *Salix caprea* (pussy willow).

### Where to look?

- eggs are deposited in a row in the leaf petiole, check for lines of elongate raised scars
- leaves bearing eggs are likely to show signs of feeding by the first instar larvae
- larvae feed gregariously and lie side by side on the underside of the leaf