

## Ash Leaf-Cone Caterpillar

Not to be confused with the Cottony Psyllid, is a caterpillar the ash leaf-cone caterpillar *Caloptilia fraxinella*. It is the cause for there rolled-up leaflets pictured here.



The first stage of the caterpillar's development is the leaf-mining period. When the caterpillar matures, it folds the leaflet into a cone shape, and spins its cocoon inside. Within a few weeks the pupa pushes itself out of the cocoon, and through the base of the coned leaflet. The adult moth, which is grey with a wingspan of only 12mm emerges soon after.



This rolling up of leaflets has little effect on the health of the ash tree. The rolled leaflets remain attached to the tree. Therefore, at this time, any damage caused by this insect can be considered cosmetic and does not require spraying with an insecticide.