

or black lines and more grayish white parts distributed over the wing surface. A small whitish gray spot bordered by a small dark line is present near the middle of the front wing. The lateral margin of the front wing is ornamented with about nine small whitish spots. The hind wings are grayish white with a broad brownish-gray band along the margin. The inner side of this band is bordered by a slightly zigzagging dark line. Moreover there are two dark or black smaller bands, which cross the central wing part diagonally, and often partly coalesce. Near the pilose wingbase a short fourth dark band is situated.

The abdomen, tapering to the end, is marked dark-gray with a row of six orange-yellow spots on each side, which decrease in size from the 2nd to the 8th segment.

Antennae of the male moth are ciliated and broader than those of the female moth.

#### LIFE HISTORY.

The moths start flying at dusk. The eggs are deposited singly on either side but preferable on the underside of the leaves. The eggs hatch in about 5 days. The young hornworm gnaws a circular slit around the upper part of the egg, and emerges from the egg. After devouring the egg shell almost completely, the larva soon starts feeding on the leaf of the foodplant. The worms grow rapidly as experiments with larvae on pepper in breeding cages showed. The first four larval stages last each about 1.5 tot 2 days. After a moult the stripped derm is devoured with the exception of the head capsule and the abdominal horn.

The hornworm of the fifth stage after feeding ravenously and quickly increasing in size during 2 to 3 days, enters into the ground and makes an earthen cell, without showing any silk-spinning capacity. Here it changes into a brown pupa after 2 to 3 days. The pupal stage lasts for 14 to 19 days. Consequently, the total duration from the egg stage to the adult form varies from 29 tot 38 days. Hornworms, especially in their younger stages, are easily overlooked on account of the greenish body colour and their habit of elevating the front part of the body when disturbed, in which position they remain motionless for some time.

Often the defoliation of the foodplant gives the first indication of the presence of the (larger) hornworm.

*Telenomus connectens* Ashm., a black bodied Chalcid with a length of about 1.2 mm and yellowish brown legs and antennae, may parasitize the sphingid eggs to a very high percentage. This is the reason why tomato, pepper and tobacco plants are as a rule attacked by rather low numbers of hornworms.

✓ „Wandelende” stinkzwamfragmenten. Op 5 augustus 1955 was ik er getuige van, dat in een fijnspar-bos op Pijnenburg (Soester gedeelte) verscheidene stinkzwammen (*Phallus impudium*) waren opgeschoten. Op het sporenslijm waren tal van aasvliegen afgekomen, maar het aardigste was, dat sommige stelen uiteen waren gevallen in stukken, die zich over de bosbodem verplaatsten. De oorzaak? In de fragmenten van de stelen, die zoals men weet, hol zijn, wemelde het van oranje aaskevers (*Oeceoptoma thoracicum* L.), die door hun bewegingen er voor zorgden, dat de fragmenten zich al kantelend verplaatsten.

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