

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/WEIGHTS AND MEASURES**

## Citrus Leafminer (*Phyllocnistis citrella*)

**Distribution:** Originated in SE Asia. In the U.S., it was found in Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Texas, Hawaii and California.

**Hosts:** Attacks all varieties of citrus and over 20 related plants from family *Rutaceae*.

**Damage:** Larva tunnels inside the leaf tissue, creating the characteristic serpentine mines in the foliage. Feeding causes leaf distortion and curl. Larvae occasionally attack fruit and young stems. Mature trees can withstand heavy infestations, but continual defoliation can kill young trees and new plantings.

**Field ID: Adults** (about 4 mm) have white and silvery forewings with brown markings and a black spot on each tip.

**Larvae** (about 3 mm) are translucent greenish-yellow and can be easily located through transparent leaf mine.

**Pupae** (light brown to brown color) are resting rolled up in the pupal cell at the leaf margin.



Larvae



Pupa



Adult

**Citrus leafminer  
damage on the leaves**

