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Codling moth oviposition response to plant odors

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Codling moth Cydia pomonella L. (Lepidoptera: Tortricidae) is an important pest in apple-growing areas all over the world. It is predominantly found on apple, but also feeds on pear and walnut. The females oviposit on or close to the fruit, and the larvae bore into the fruit. Pheromone-mediated mating disruption can be used to control codling moths at low to moderate population densities. However, only male behavior is affected. It is desirable to manipulate also the female behavior.
Codling moth females search to find suitable larval hosts and oviposition sites. Plant odors are used in this host-finding process. The oviposition behavior is stimulated by odors from apples. We have investigated whether odors from other host species also stimulate oviposition. Furthermore, we studied if the larval history affects oviposition behavior in response to the plant odors.