



## Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds - Mini Fact Sheet Edition

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### Bele (Abelmoschus) leaf roller (087)



Photo 1. Caterpillar of *Haritolodes deregata* rolling leaves of *bele*.



Photo 2. Caterpillar of the bele(cotton) leaf roller, *Haritolodes deregata*, showing the dark spots behind the head.



Photo 3. Caterpillar of the bele (cotton) leaf roller, *Haritolodes deregata*.



Photo 4. Adult bele (cotton) leaf roller, *Haritolodes deregata*.



Photo 5. Extensive damage to *bele* cabbage by the bele (cotton) leaf roller, *Haritolodes deregata*.



Photo 6. Curling and drooping of leaves attacked by the bele (cotton) leaf roller, *Haritolodes deregata*.

#### Summary

- Worldwide distribution. On *bele* (*aibika*, island cabbage or *sliperi kabis*, *Abelmoschus manihot*), ornamental *Hibiscus*, cotton, okra, and some weeds. An important pest.
- Eggs laid singly or in groups on underside of leaves. At first, larvae feed together, later alone in leaf rolls, causing leaves to curl, droop down and fall.
- Cultural control: plant away from infested crops; pinch and squash rolled leaves, if number are low; prune rolled leaves; after last harvest, collect and burn debris.
- Chemical control: PDPs (with soap): chilli, derris, pyrethrum, or neem; use biopesticides, e.g., Bt (*Bacillus thuringiensis*), or spinosad, but best to spray young larvae; use synthetic pyrethroids, but more likely to kill natural enemies.

#### Common Name

Cotton leaf roller, bele leaf roller

## Scientific Name

*Haritalodes derogata* (previously *Sylepta derogata*).

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