

ARCTIIDAE

ARCTIA CAJA - GARDEN TIGER MOTH



CATERPILLAR Thoracic and lateral abdominal hairs mostly golden orange; dorsal and subdorsal abdominal hairs black with numerous longer white hairs.

ADULT Wingspan 6.5 centimeters. Forewings brown with irregular white bands. Hindwings orange with round black spots. Abdomen orange with middorsal black markings.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are common, generalist feeders on foliage of herbaceous plants and small flowering shrubs, such as vetch and willow; present in fall; overwintering, with development completed by May or June. Adults are nocturnal; fly in midsummer. Found in open habitats, such as meadows and forest edges; widely distributed at lower elevations in western North America.

ARCTIIDAE*CISSEPS FULVICOLLIS*

CATERPILLAR Hairs gray-white with longer lateral black tufts. Head orange.

ADULT Wingspan 3.6 centimeters. Forewings brown. Hindwings brown along outer margin with a light blue tint in the middle of the wing. Body is black with an orange-yellow collar behind the head.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are common; feed on foliage of grasses, sedges, and rushes during late spring. Adults are diurnal; fly from early to midsummer. Found in grasslands among coniferous forests; widely distributed in western North America.

ARCTIIDAE

CLEMENSIA ALBATA



CATERPILLAR Cryptically patterned with mottled green and black; thin middorsal white line.

ADULT Wingspan 2.4 centimeters. Forewings white with a mottled pattern of fine black lines and spots. Hindwings off-white and diffusely mottled with light brown.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are common; feed on lichens in trees and large shrubs during spring; most common on Oregon white oak upon foliage they might eat, as well. Adults are nocturnal; fly in late summer. Found in woodlands and forests west of the Cascade Mountains.

ARCTIIDAE

CTENUCHA RUBROSCAPUS

CATERPILLAR White hairs on a black and white body. Head orange.

ADULT Wingspan 4.5 centimeters. Wings black, edged with white distally. Thorax black, laterally with two red longitudinal lines, prothorax with a red apical patch. Head red and black. Abdomen iridescent blue.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are common; feed on grasses during spring. Adults are diurnal; fly in midsummer. Found in wet meadows along the West Coast in California and Oregon.

ARCTIIDAE

GNOPHAELA LATIPENNIS



CATERPILLAR Yellow with dorsal, lateral, and ventral black patches; clusters of white hairs originate from black bases with blue spots. Head red-brown.

ADULT Wingspan 5.4 centimeters. Wings black with white markings in a distinctive pattern. Each forewing with a single, small, basal, white spot; the medial and distal clusters consist of four white spots. Each hindwing with one medial cluster of three white spots, and one distal cluster of two white spots.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are common; feed on foliage of hound's tongue during late spring and early summer. Adults are diurnal; fly from mid- to late summer. Found in open pine forests from California to western Oregon.

ARCTIIDAE

GRAMMIA ORNATA

CATERPILLAR Longer white hairs interspersed among black hairs located dorsally and laterally; ventrally hairs orange. Head black.

ADULT Wingspan 4.3 centimeters. Forewings black with narrow yellow streaks. Hindwings red-orange with a black border and central black spots of variable proportions. Head is yellow with the thorax striped in yellow and black.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are common, generalist feeders on foliage of herbaceous plants during spring. Adults are nocturnal; fly in early summer. Found in meadows and clearcuts; widely distributed in western North America.

ARCTIIDAE

HEMIHYALEA EDWARDSII



CATERPILLAR Tan hairs on thorax; long white hairs interspersed among black abdominal hairs dorsally and tan hairs laterally.

ADULT Wingspan 6.5 centimeters. Wings semitransparent, creamy yellow-orange with faint black markings. Thorax yellow; abdomen red-pink.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are not commonly encountered; feed on oak foliage during late spring and summer. Adults very common at lights, nocturnal, fly in late summer. Found in oak woodlands in California and western Oregon.

ARCTIIDAE

FALL WEBWORM - *HYPHANTRIA CUNEA*

CATERPILLAR Long white hairs originate from red spots on a black body with yellow markings.

ADULT Wingspan 3.4 centimeters. Wings white with no other markings. Abdomen yellow-white; ventral side of prothorax and femur of foreleg with orange hairs.

ECOLOGY The communal caterpillars are very common, forming large silk tents on the branches of broadleaf trees; at times considered a pest. Caterpillars feed on numerous plants, particularly willow, alder, and black cottonwood, during August and September. Adults are nocturnal; fly in midsummer. Found in woodlands, riparian, and urban environments; widely distributed in western North America.

ARCTIIDAE

LOPHOCAMPA ARGENTATA - SILVER SPOTTED TIGER MOTH



CATERPILLAR Clusters of short yellow hairs are concentrated subdorsally with clusters of short orange hairs located laterally; middorsal clusters of short black hairs. Body black.

ADULT Wingspan 4.1 centimeters. Forewings gold-brown with silvery white spots. Hindwings off-white, nearly immaculate. Abdomen yellow.

ECOLOGY This species is abundant, sometimes considered a pest. Caterpillars are very common; feed on conifers, particularly Douglas-fir. Early instars are gregarious, present in August; overwintering, with development complete by May or June the following spring. Adults are nocturnal; fly from late July to early August. Found in moist conifer forests along the West Coast from California to British Columbia.

ARCTIIDAE

SPOTTED TUSSOCK MOTH (MID INSTARS) - *LOPHOCAMPA MACULATA*

CATERPILLAR (Mid instars) This is one of many caterpillars that develops through more than one color phase, either by stage of development, genetic polymorphism, or other environmental factors; in this species color phases differ according to age. Mid instar: Midabdominal segments with middorsal clusters of red hairs among bright yellow hairs; anterior and posterior with long wisps of white hairs and shorter yellow and black hairs.

ARCTIIDAE

LOPHOCAMPA MACULATA - SPOTTED TUSSOCK MOTH (LAST INSTAR)



CATERPILLAR (Last instar) midabdominal segments with wisps of long white hairs among red-orange hairs; anterior and posterior with long wisps of white hairs among short black hairs.

ADULT Wingspan 4.5 centimeters. Forewings yellow with brown bands. Hindwings immaculate. Abdomen yellow.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are very common; feed on many broadleaf trees, such as big-leaf maple, oak, and red alder, during July and August. Adults are nocturnal; fly in midsummer. Found in low elevation woodlands and wet forests; widely distributed in western North America.

ARCTIIDAE*PLATYPREPIA VIRGINALIS*

CATERPILLAR Black with orange hairs at the anterior and posterior ends; middle portion of the body with long white hairs.

ADULT Wingspan 6.2 centimeters. Forewings black with many large, round, pale-yellow to off-white spots. Hindwings variable, either orange with black bands or mostly black with orange spots. Thorax black with dorsal-anterior patches of yellow.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are common; feed on herbs and grasses, present in fall; overwintering, with development completed by June the following spring. Adults are diurnal; fly in early summer. Found in wet meadows of coniferous and hardwood forests throughout western North America.

ARCTIIDAE

PYRRHARCTIA ISABELLA - BANDED WOOLLYBEAR



CATERPILLAR Dense cover of hairs over body, midabdominal segments with reddish orange hairs, anterior and posterior segments with black hairs.

ADULT Wingspan 5.3 centimeters. Forewings mustard-yellow with numerous small, dark spots. Hindwings yellow-orange with a few small, dark spots.

ECOLOGY This is the species of folklore in predicting the weather based on the extent of the orange band; the more black covering the body (less orange), the colder the upcoming winter. Caterpillars are very common; feed on herbs, such as nettles, during fall and spring; overwintering, with development completing in the spring. Adults are nocturnal; fly in midsummer. Found at lower elevations in woodlands and wet forests; widely distributed in western North America and particularly common west of the Cascade Mountains.

ARCTIIDAE*SPILOSOMA VESTALIS*

CATERPILLAR Black hairs dorsally; white hairs laterally. Head black.

ADULT Wingspan 5.2 centimeters. Wings and abdomen white with small black spots. Femur of foreleg with red hairs.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are common, generalist feeders on foliage of flowering trees, particularly oak, during spring. Adults are nocturnal; fly from late May through June. Found in moist hardwood and coniferous forests west of the Cascade Mountains.

ARCTIIDAE

SPILOSOMA VIRGINICA - YELLOW WOOLLYBEAR

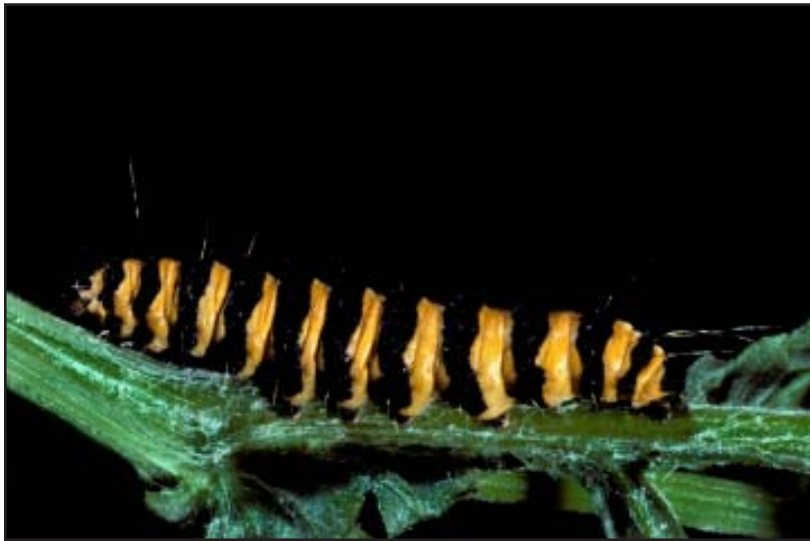


CATERPILLAR Long hairs white; short hairs white and yellow-orange; colors uniformly dispersed over body except for lateral region of A4 through A6 where hairs appear white.

ADULT Wingspan 4.2 centimeters. Wings white with a few small spots toward the outer margin. Hindwings white with submarginal spots. Femur orange-yellow on foreleg. Abdomen white and orange with dorsal patches of black spots.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are common; feed on herbs, such as dandelion and Queen Anne's lace, present in fall; overwintering, with development completed by June or July. A second generation occurs during the summer. Adults are nocturnal; fly in midsummer. Found in wet forests and meadows; widely distributed in western North America.

ARCTIIDAE

CINNABAR MOTH - *TYRIA JACOBAEAE*

CATERPILLAR Hairs are sparse, atypical for arctiids. Alternating orange and black rings occur along the entire length of the body.

ADULT Wingspan 3.7 centimeters. Forewings dark gray-black, each forewing with a red costal stripe and two red submarginal spots. Hindwings nearly all red with gray margins. Abdomen black.

ECOLOGY This species feeds on tansy ragwort, a noxious weed for which it was intentionally introduced into the western United States as a biological control agent. Caterpillars are very common, and with rare exception feed only on species of *Senecio*, particularly *S. jacobaea*, during July and August. The gregarious caterpillars are poisonous to vertebrate predators due to the sequestration of pyrolizidine alkaloids from the hostplant. Adults are diurnal; fly in May and June. Found in open habitats west of the Cascade Mountains.