

SATURNIIDAE

POLYPHEMUS MOTH - *ANTHRAEA POLYPHEMUS*

CATERPILLAR Green; base of primary setae red, subdorsal and lateral setae have a silver shading below; end of prolegs with yellow ring and tipped in black; diagonal streak of black and silver on A9. Head and true legs brown.

ADULT Wingspan 12.2 centimeters. Forewings tan-brown with pink edges to the basal and submarginal lines, reniform spot is round and translucent, apical spot is small and black. Hindwings tan-brown; each hindwing has a broad black submarginal line and a large black, blue, and yellow discal eyespot.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are common; feed on many broadleaf trees, such as white oak and big-leaf maple, during late spring. Adults are nocturnal; fly between late spring and early summer. Found in wet forests; widely distributed in western North America.

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COLORADIA PANDORA - PANDORA MOTH



CATERPILLAR Dark brown with white spots and light yellow-mustard green transverse bands at the anterior of each segment; middorsal, subdorsal and lateral white longitudinal dashed bands.

ADULT Wingspan 8.1 centimeters. Forewings black-brown with gray scales, basal and postmedian lines are black and jagged to dentate, reniform spot is small, black, and round. Hindwings pink; each hindwing has a round, black reniform spot and black postmedian line and submarginal border.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are very common; feed on conifers, particularly ponderosa pine, during late summer; overwintering, with development completed in June. Pupae remain in the soil for one year. Adults are crepuscular/nocturnal, fly in midsummer. Found in dry coniferous forests, particularly abundant in ponderosa pine forests where it is considered a pest; widely distributed in western North America.

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BROWN DAY MOTH - *HEMILEUCA EGLANTERINA*

CATERPILLAR This brownish black caterpillar has whorls of orange hairs on dorsal and subdorsal black spines. Black spines also occur laterally and sublaterally with off-white hairs; white spiracular band. Gregarious early instars are solid black.

ADULT Wingspan 6.4 centimeters. Forewings rose-pink and orange; each forewing has black basal and postmedian bands, a round reniform spot and submarginal dashes. Hindwings orange with a similar pattern of black as on forewings. Abdomen orange with black bands. Color variants may lack all black markings, with pure unmarked rose-pink and orange wings or the black markings may be distinct, or greatly enlarged covering most of the wing.

ECOLOGY The hairy spines of this caterpillar are urticating. Caterpillars are common, generalist feeders on flowering trees and shrubs, particularly Rosaceae, such as rose, hawthorn, cherry, serviceberry, and bitterbrush, during spring. Adults are diurnal; fly in midsummer. Found in woodlands, and wet and dry forests; widely distributed in western North America.

SATURNIIDAE

HYALOPHORA EURYALUS - CEANOTHUS SILK MOTH



CATERPILLAR This caterpillar changes colors as it develops and molts (see Chapter 3, page 20). Mid-instars are the most brilliantly colored with nine pairs of dorsal yellow spines, the first three pairs with partial to complete black rings; a middorsal yellow spine on A8; two rows of lateral blue spines tipped with white along T1 through A8; white-tipped blue spines also occur on the head, at the base of the true legs, and in the anal region; body ranges from green to white-green. Later instars white-green with white spines.

ADULT Wingspan 10.3 centimeters. Forewings variable rose-red, purple-red or dark red-brown; each forewing has a large white, comma-shaped reniform spot, white basal and postmedian lines, and a round black subapical spot. Hindwings similar to the forewings, but each hindwing has an extremely elongate reniform spot.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are common on snowbrush and bitterbrush, sometimes found on Douglas-fir, during July and August. Adults are nocturnal; fly in spring. Found in woodlands, and wet and dry forests; widely distributed in the Pacific Northwest.

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SATURNIA MENDOCINO

CATERPILLAR Highly variable through the various instars. Late instars (shown here) are dorsally yellow with fine wispy white hairs and some patches of shorter densely packed orange hairs; ventrally black anterior to the prolegs. Head brown.

ADULT Wingspan 6.5 centimeters. Forewings dark brown; each forewing has a round black reniform spot. Hindwings yellow-orange; each hindwing has a black postmedian band and round reniform spot.

ECOLOGY The hairs on the caterpillar are urticating. Caterpillars are uncommon; feed on the foliage of manzanita, madrone, and species of *Ceanothus*. Adults are diurnal; fly in early spring. Found in dry forests, ranging from California to western Oregon.