- **abdomen** one of the three primary body segments, along with the head and thorax, characteristic of insects. The abdomen in moths is typically elongate and contains the reproductive organs.
- **adfrontal suture** a seam-like line on the frontal area of the caterpillar head capsule.
- **allelochemical** a chemical derived from plants that may stimulate or deter feeding by caterpillars.
- **anal angle** the angle along the edge of the wing created by the transition from the outer margin to the inner margin.
- anal area see area, anal.
- **anal proleg** a proleg on the last segment of the abdomen.
- **antenna (pl. antennae)** variously shaped filamentous sensory organs located on the head.
- **anterior** to be in front; the area that is the forward-most section of a body part.
- apical area see area, apical.
- **aposomatic** a brightly colored organism that is typically poisonous.
- **area, anal** the area on the wing between the outer margin and the inner margin, proximal to the anal angle.
- **area**, **apical** the area on the wing below the apex.
- **area, basal** the area at the base of the wing where the wing is attached to the thorax.
- area, median the central area of the wing.

area, midcostal the area in the center of the front edge of the wing.

- **area, postmedian** the area on the wing immediately distal to the median area and proximal to the submarginal area.
- area, subanal the area on the wing proximal to the anal area.
- **area**, **subapical** the area on the wing proximal to the apical area.
- area, submarginal the area on the wing proximal to the outer margin.
- **band** a wide area typically extending more than half the distance along the width or length of the wing and often demarked by lines and associated with a particular area on the wing.
- basal area see area, basal.
- basal line see line, basal.
- biordinal the tips of the crochets occur in a pattern of two rows.
- **biserial** the base of the crochets occur in a pattern of two rows.
- **bivoltine** two generations per year.
- **butterfly** the adult of a species of Lepidoptera with knobbed antennae, day-flying, and typically brightly colored.
- **caterpillar** the larva of Lepidoptera; one of four life stages of skippers, butterflies, and moths.
- **cardiac glycoside** an allelochemical found in certain plants such as milkweed and poisonous to most animals.
- **cell, discal** an area of the wing delineated by the discal veins in the discal area.

chalaza (pl. chalazae) a single hair arising from an elevated base.	for
chrysalis the pupa of a butterfly.	
cleft notched.	for
cocoon the pupa of moths wrapped in silk.	fras
costal margin see margin, costal.	-
crochets hooks present on the ends of the prolegs.	gre hea
cryptic an organism that blends into its surroundings.	nec
dash a narrow short mark extending less than half the distance along the width or length of the wing.	hea
dentate tooth-like markings, typically along one side of a line.	her
diapause a condition of arrested development.	hin
discal area see area, discal.	
discal cell see cell, discal.	hol
discal spots see spots, discal.	
diurnal active during the day.	inc
dorsal the top or back area of the body.	inn
dorsum the upper side of the body.	inn
eclose to emerge from.	ins
eyespot a round multi-colored spot on the forewing or hindwing.	lab
falcate curved into a sickle-shape, often used to describe a wing with the tip extended into an subtle or elongate, curved point.	lab
femur the third segment of the true legs preceeded by the coxa and the trochanter. The femur is the first leg segment that is elongate,	lab

foreleg the first pair of true legs nearest the head. The forelegs are ventrally attached to the first thoracic segment.

forewing(s) the wing(s) attached to the second thoracic segment, the first pair of wings from the head.

frass insect feces.

gregarious living in a group.

head one of the three primary body segments characteristic of insects, along with the thorax and abdomen. The head contains the antennae, mouthparts, eyes, and brain.

head capsule the sclerotized (hardened) part of the head.

herbivorous feeding on foliage.

- **hindwing(s)** the wing(s) attached to the third thoracic segment, the second pair of wings from the head.
- **holometabolous** an insect whose development involves a pupal stage.
- **inchworm** the caterpillar of geometrids which has only one pair of midabdominal prolegs, occurring on sixtgh abdominal segment.

inner band see band, inner.

nner margin see margin, inner.

instar an immature insect between molts.

labial palps see palps, labial.

- **labium** the bottom-most part of the mouthparts upon which the caterpillar silk gland is located.
- **labrum** a flap-like part of the mouthparts just below the face used as a feeding guide.

followed by the tibia which is also elongate.

larva one of the immature stages in the life cycle of a holometabolous insect, a caterpillar is the larval life stage of Lepidoptera.

lateral an area along the side of a body part.

- **line** a narrow mark extending more than half the distance along the width or length of the wing and associated with a particular area on the wing.
- **line, basal** a line in the basal area near to where the wing attaches to the thorax.

line, postmedian a line in the postmedian area.

line, submarginal a line in the submarginal area.

- **macromoth** the adult of a species of Lepidoptera with the tips of antennae tapered, in the Pacific Northwest the species occur in one of the following families: Arctiidae, Dioptidae, Drepanidae, Epiplemidae, Geometridae, Lasiocampidae, Lymantriidae, Noctuidae, Notodontidae, Saturniidae, Sphingidae, and Thyatiridae.
- **mandible** a component of the mouthparts used for cutting and chewing food.

margin, costal the front edge of the wing.

margin, inner the back edge of the wing.

margin, outer the distal edge of the wing.

median area see area, median.

median line see line, median.

- **mesothorax** the second (middle) segment of the thorax from the head, abbreviated as T2.
- **metathorax** the third (last) segment of the thorax from the head, abbreviated as T3.

micromoth the adult of a species of Lepidoptera with the tips of antennae tapered, typically small bodied, many families of micromoths occur in the Pacific Northwest; not a butterfly or a macromoth.

midabdominal proleg prolegs on the middle abdominal segments. midcostal area see area, midcostal.

middorsal an area in the middle of the top region of a body part.

monophagous feeding on only one kind of plant.

- **multiserial** the base of the crochets occur in a pattern of multiple rows.
- multivoltine more than two generations per year.

nocturnal active during the night.

occiput the top portion of the head capsule.

omnivorous feeding on both plants and animals, and perhaps detritus.

orbicular spot see spot, orbicular.

osmeterium an eversible forked pouch in Papilionidae located middorsally on the prothorax.

outer margin see margin, outer.

oviposition the laying of an egg.

- **palps, labial** small, segmented, filamentous appendages attached to the labium on the mouthparts.
- **parasitoid** a specialized insect predator whose young develop entirely on a single host and kill the host.
- **patch** a small restricted area of the wing demarked by a distinct color but not delimited by lines.

- **pectinate** comb-like, often used to describe antennae with numerous fine branches arranged asymetrically along one side of antennal segments.
- **plumose** feather-like, often used to describe antennae with numerous fine branches arranged in opposition along the antennal segments.
- **plusiine noctuids** a group of moths whose caterpillar typically has two pair of midabdominal prolegs, occurring on the fifth and sixth abdominal segments.
- polyphagous feeding on many plant species.
- **posterior** to be behind; the area that is the back end of a body part.
- postmedian area see area, postmedian.
- postmedian line see line, postmedian.
- predaceous feeding on live animals.
- proleg fleshy protuberance of body wall; creates a nonjointed leg.
- prothoracic shield a sclerotized plate on the first thoracic segment.
- **prothorax** the first segment of the thorax behind the head, abbreviated as T1.
- **pupa** the life stage of a holometabolous insect that follows the larval stage and within which metamorphosis occurs.

reniform spot see spot, reniform.

- sclerotized a hardened area of the body skin.
- **scolus (pl. scoli)** a spine with multiple points.
- semilooper the caterpillar of plusiine noctuids.

setae hairs.

- **silk gland** a silk-excreting gland in caterpillars on the underside of the labium.
- **skipper** the adult of a species of Lepidoptera in the family Hesperiidae, antennae with a hooked-tip, day-flying, closely related to butterflies.
- **spiracle** the opening of the respiratory system located along the lateral side of the body.
- **spot, orbicular** a single near round-shaped spot that occurs just short of half way along the front edge of the forewing within the discal cell.
- **spot, reniform** a single irregularly shaped spot, often kidney-shaped, that occurs just past half way along the front edge of the forewing at the distal end of the discal cell.
- **spots**, **discal** a combination of the reniform and orbicular spots.
- **stemma (pl. stemmata)** the eyes on the head capsule, also called eyespots.
- **stigma** a distinct marking in the median area, of variable shape, often comma or v-shaped, usually silver or white, characteristic of Plusiinae: Noctuidae.

subanal area see area, subanal.

subapical area see area, subapical.

subdorsal the body area part way between dorsal and lateral.

sublateral the area below the lateral region of a body part.

submarginal area see area, submarginal.

submarginal line see line, submarginal.

subspiracular the body area immediately below the spiracles.

thorax one of the three primary body segments characteristic of insects, along with the head and abdomen. The thorax consists of three segments with a pair of wings attached dorsally to the second and third segments, and a pair of jointed legs attached ventrally to each segment.

triordinal the tips of the crochets occur in a pattern of three rows.

triserial the base of the crochets occur in a pattern of three rows.

uniordinal the tips of the crochets occur in one row.

uniserial the base of the crochets occur in one row.

univoltine one generation per year.

urticating stinging (hairs).

venter the underside of the body.

- **ventral** the area on the underside of a body part.
- **warts** small bumps or short finger-like projections extending from the body wall.
- **wingspan** the distance between the tips of the front wings in a properly spread specimen.