



Introduction to Moths of Sri Lanka

Moth Classification

Kingdom: Animalia
Phylum: Arthropoda
Class: Insecta
Order: Lepidoptera

Sub-Order : Rhopalocera
(Butterflies)

Sub-Order : **Heterocera**
(Moths)

Rhopalocera and Heterocera are non-standard divisions in the taxonomy of Lepidopterans, used in an attempt to formalize the popular distinction between butterflies and moths.

Differences Between Butterflies and Moths

Shape and structure of antennae

Rounded clubs on the ends.

Thin or often feathery.



Butterfly

Moth



Pupal Stage

Chrysalis



Butterfly

Cocoon



Moth

Colouration of the wings

Colourful

Dull



Butterfly

Moth



Structure of the body

thin and smooth



thick and fuzzy



Butterfly

Moth



Time of activity

during the day



during the night



Mt. Alab 1700m Crocker Range Natl. Park Sabah Borneo
Date: November 17, 2009 (No.091117317)
Photo: Kenichiro Nakao

Butterfly

Moth



Resting posture

Typical butterfly resting posture



Butterfly

Typical moth resting posture



Alt

©Nuwan Chathuranga

e

Moth



Moth Anatomy



Antennae (Feathered)



Antennae (Thin)



Labial Palps



Proboscis



Xanthopan morgani
(WALKER, 1856)



Coremata & Hair-pencils



History of Moth Study in Sri Lanka

THE LEPIDOPTERA OF CEYLON.

BY
F. MOORE, F.Z.S.,

ASSOCIATE OF THE LINNEAN SOCIETY OF LONDON; MEMBER OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF
LONDON; CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE ENTOM. SOC. OF STETIN, AND
OF THE ENTOM. SOC. OF THE NETHERLANDS.

VOL. I.

(Published under the special Patronage of the Government of Ceylon.)



LONDON:
L. REEVE & CO., 5, HENRIETTA STREET, COVENT GARDEN.
1880-81.



Frederic Moore (May 13, 1830–May 10, 1907)



Family – SATURNIIDAE

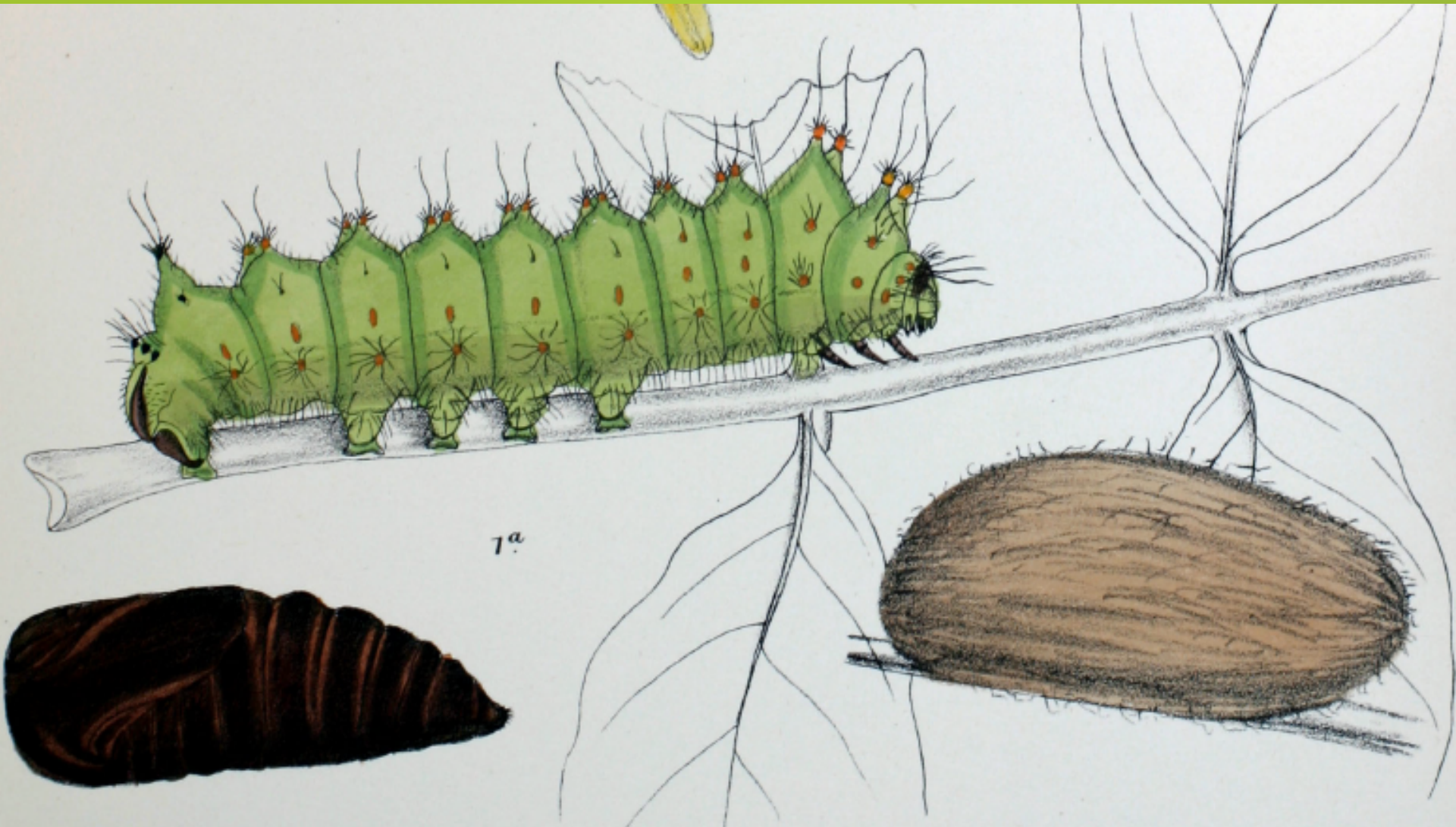
(Emperor moths/Silkmoths)



Sri Lankan Moon Moth (Actias selene taprobanis)



Sri Lankan Moon Moth (Actias selene taprobanis)



Atlas Moth (Attacus taprobanis)



Atlas Moth (Attacus taprobanis)



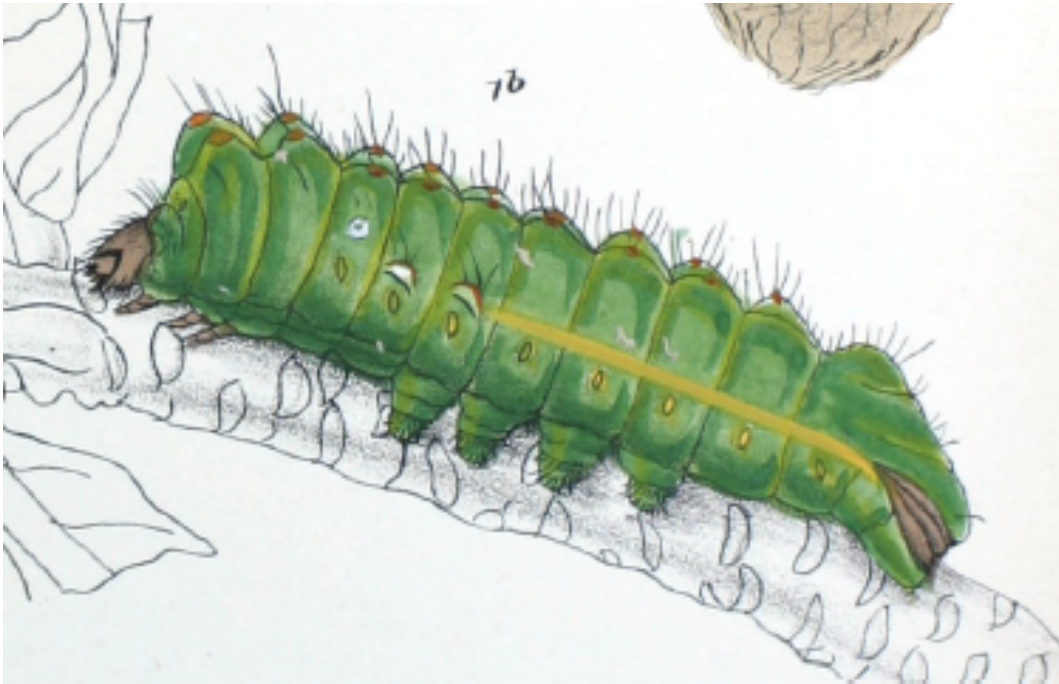
Atlas Moth (Attacus taprobanis)



Tussar Silk Moth (Antheraea cingalesa)



Tussar Silk Moth (Antheraea cingalesa)



Family – SPHINGIDAE (Sphinx Moths/Hawk Moths)



Family – SPHINGIDAE

(Sphinx Moths/Hawk Moths)



Family – SPHINGIDAE (Sphinx Moths/Hawk Moths)



Family – SPHINGIDAE
(Sphinx Moths/Hawk Moths)



Family – SPHINGIDAE (Sphinx Moths/Hawk Moths)



Family – SPHINGIDAE
(Sphinx Moths/Hawk Moths)



Family – SPHINGIDAE (Sphinx Moths/Hawk Moths)

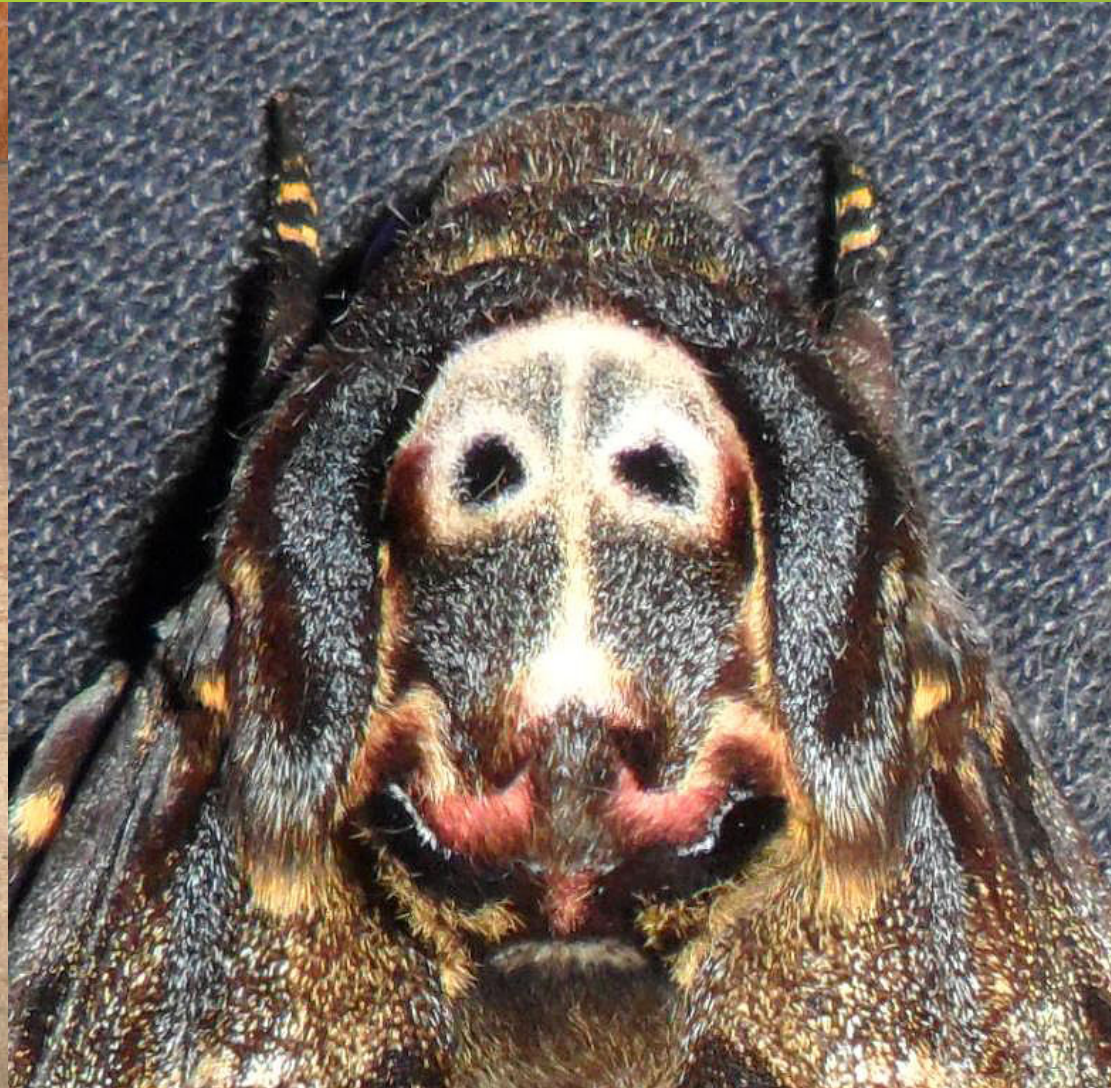


© Science Photo Library / Rex Feat

Family – SPHINGIDAE (Sphinx Moths/Hawk Moths)



Death's Head hawkmoth *Acherontia lachesis*



Hummingbird Hawk-Moth *Macroglossum* sp.



Hummingbird Hawk-Moths



Pellucid Hawk Moth

Cephonodes hylas



Family – GEOMETRIDAE

(Geometer Moths, Loopers)



Family – GEOMETRIDAE

(Geometer Moths, Loopers)



Family – GEOMETRIDAE

(Geometer Moths, Loopers)



Family – GEOMETRIDAE

(Geometer Moths, Loopers)



Family – GEOMETRIDAE

(Geometer Moths, Loopers)



Subfamily Desmobathrinae



Subfamily Ennominae



Subfamily Geometrinae (Emerald Moths)



Subfamily Geometrinae (Emerald Moths)



Subfamily Larentiinae



Subfamily Sterrhinae



Family – EREBIDAE

(Owlet Moths, Tiger Moths, Tussock Moths and Allies)



Subfamily Erebinae (Owlet Moths)



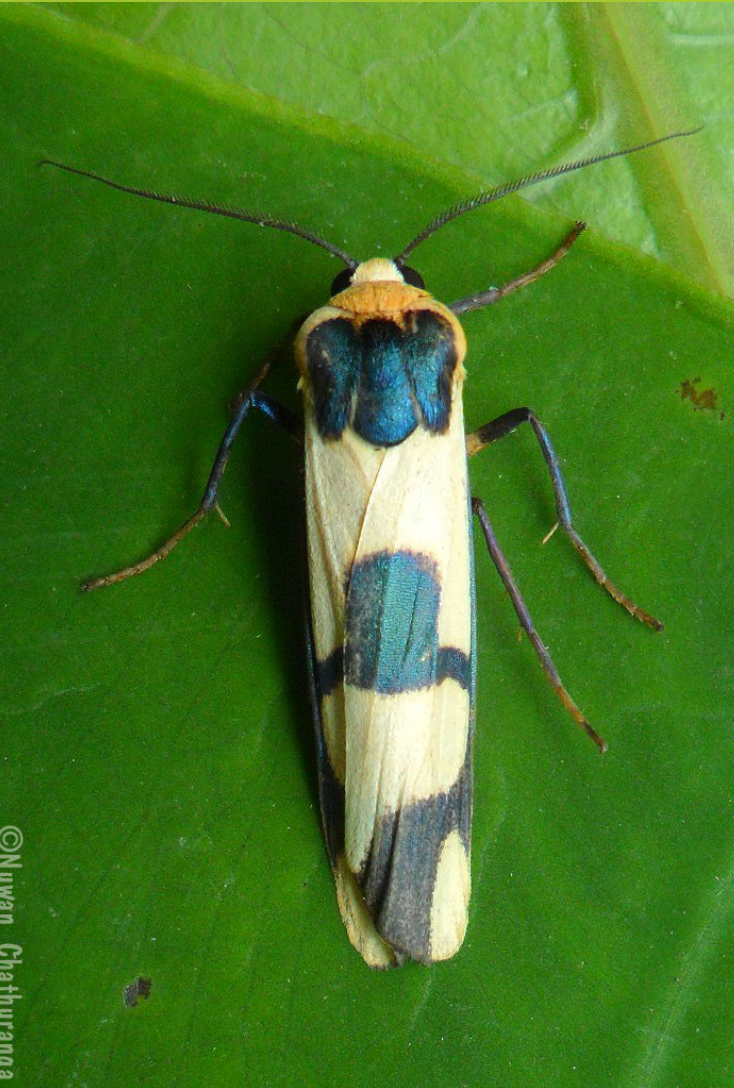
Subfamily Erebinae (Owlet Moths)



Subfamily Arctiinae (Tiger Moths)



Subfamily Arctiinae (Footman Moths - Tribe Lithosiini)



Cyana sp.



Cyana sp.

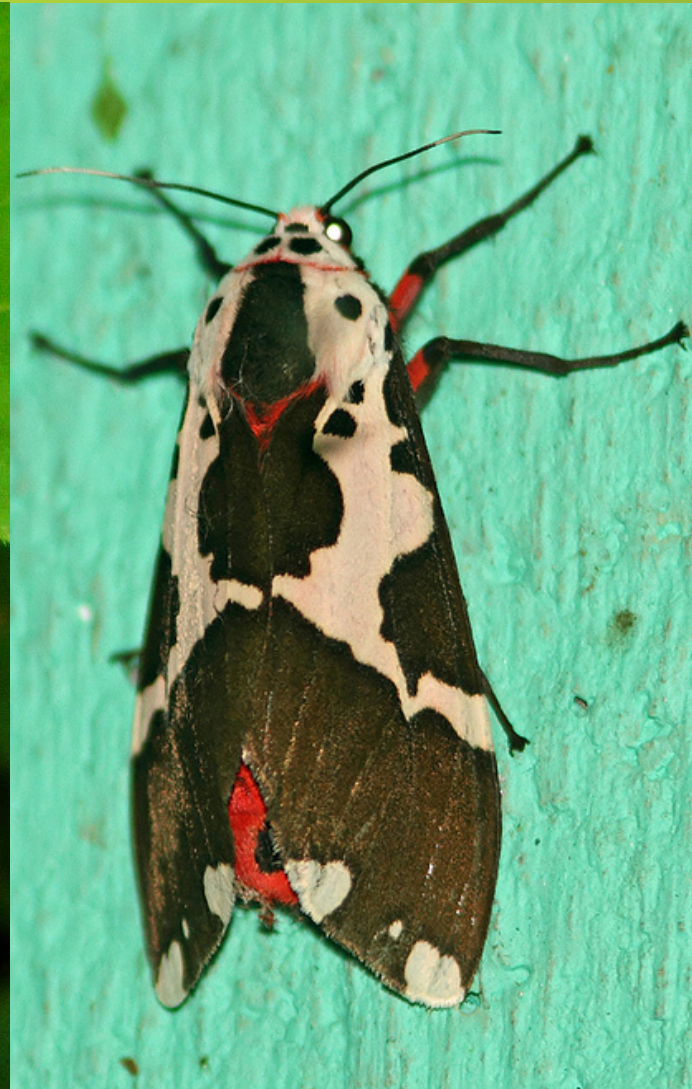


Cyana sp.



Subfamily Arctiinae

(Tiger Moths - Tribe Arctiini)



Subfamily Arctiinae

(Wasp Moths, Handmaiden Moths - Tribe Syntomini)



©Nuwan Chathuranga

Subfamily Arctiinae

(Wasp Moths, Handmaiden Moths - Tribe Syntomini)



Subfamily Arctiinae

(Wasp Moths, Handmaiden Moths - Tribe Syntomini)



Subfamily Calpinae

(Fruit-Piercing Moths)



Imashi Opatha
2011

Subfamily Calpinae

(Fruit-Piercing Moths)



Subfamily Lymantriinae (Tussock Moths)



Subfamily Lymantriinae (Tussock Moths)



Subfamily Lymantriinae (Tussock Moths)



Subfamily Lymantriinae (Tussock Moths)



Family Crambidae

(Grass Moths)



Family Crambidae (Grass Moths)



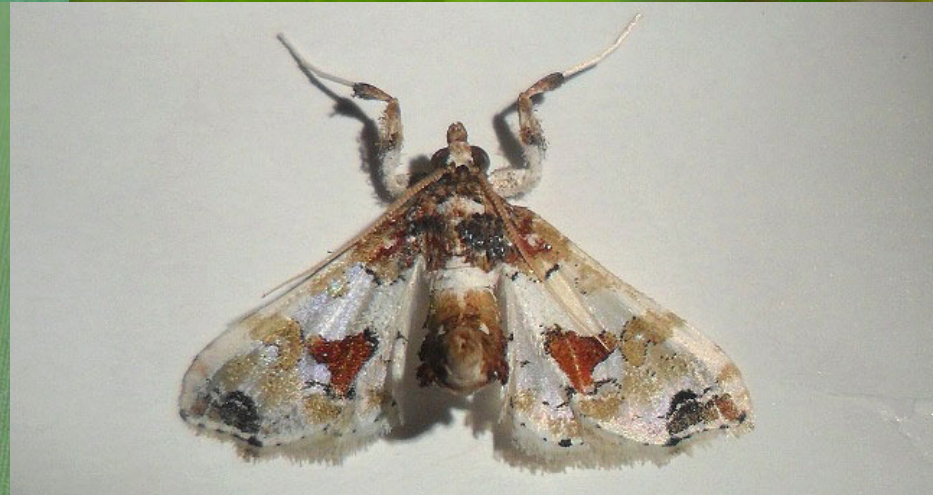
Family Crambidae (Grass Moths)



Family Crambidae (Grass Moths)



Family Crambidae (Grass Moths)



Family Limacodidae (Slug Moths)



Family Limacodidae (Slug Moths)



Family Limacodidae (Slug Moths)



Family Limacodidae (Slug Moths)



Family Limacodidae (Slug Moths)



Family Uraniidae (Swallowtail Moths)



Family Uraniidae (Swallowtail Moths)



Family Uraniidae (Swallowtail Moths)



Family Callidulidae (Old World Butterfly Moths)

I.U.J Photography
Indika Jayatissa



Family Sesiidae (Crearwing Moths)



Family Pterophoridae (Plume Moths)



Family Pterophoridae (Plume Moths)



Family Eupterotidae (Monkey Moths)



Family Eupterotidae (Monkey Moths)



Family Eupterotidae (Monkey Moths)



Family Eupterotidae (Monkey Moths)



Family Zygaenidae (Burnet Moths)



Family Zygaenidae (Burnet Moths)



Family Zygaenidae (Burnet Moths)



Family Zygaenidae (Burnet Moths)



Family Zygaenidae (Burnet Moths)



Family Zygaenidae (Burnet Moths)



Family Drepanidae (Hook tip Moths)



Family Drepanidae (Hook tip Moths)



Family Drepanidae (Hook tip Moths)



Family Lasiocampidae (Lappet Moths)



Family Lasiocampidae (Lappet Moths)



Family Lasiocampidae (Lappet Moths)



Family Psychidae (Bagworm/Case Moths)



Family Psychidae (Bagworm/Case Moths)



Family Psychidae (Bagworm/Case Moths)



Thank You!

