

# Cusuco National Park Light Trapping ID Guide

This basic pictorial guide should help to identify the species of three insect groups that are known to come to light traps in CNP. These three groups are:

- **Sphingidae (hawk moths)**
- **Saturniidae (silk moths)**
- some **Rutelinae**, including **Chrysina (jewel scarab beetles)**

The **Sphingidae** (page 2) generally have narrow forewings and a streamlined abdomen. Unlike the Saturnids, they do not have an especially hairy thorax. At rest, the wings are usually held in a poised position either side of the abdomen.

The **Saturniidae** (page 8) are usually large-bodied with small heads. They often have distinct clumps of hair-like scales on the thorax. At rest, the wings are generally held level with the body, partly or totally overlapping.

The species of interest within the **Rutelinae** (page 14) are usually large-bodied beetles, with the triangular or rounded scutellum clearly visible at the base of the wings when closed.

A record of each light trapping session should be made. This should include: the date, the beginning and end time, the location (camp and site), the collector name and that it was a light trap. The names of the species observed and the number of each should be recorded.

It is possible that species within these groups may be found that are not shown in this guide. If this is the case then either:

- For **either group of moths**: take as many photographs as possible and ensure that copies are given to the invert team
- For any **Jewel scarab beetles**, or **any beetles that look similar**: collect the insect in alcohol and ensure it is properly named

Please also collect any and all **dung beetles (Scarabaeinae)** that are found at light traps and ensure that they are properly labelled.

# Sphingidae

Note that at rest, wings will generally be held back against the body in a v-shape (such as in the image of *Xylophanes germen*). The majority of these images are of pinned specimens, which have their wings artificially arranged to show detail of the hindwings and abdomen.



*Aellopos fadus*



*Stolidoptera tachasara*



*Callionima parce*



*Callionima falcifera* (Ge

*Callionima falcifera*



*Enyo lugubris*



*Enyo ocypete*



*Erinnyis lassauxi*



*Erinnyis ello* (Linnaeus)

*Erinnyis alope*



*Erinnyis crameri* (Schauinsland)

*Erinnyis crameri*

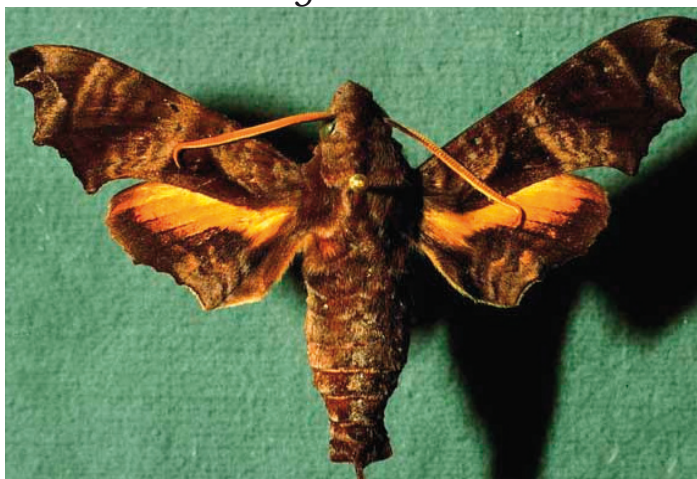


*Erinnyis alope* (Drury)

*Erinnyis oenotrus*



*Erinnyis ello*



*Nyceryx eximia*



*Perigonia lusca*



Specimen from San Diego  
Museum of Natural History

*Xylophanes ceratomoide*



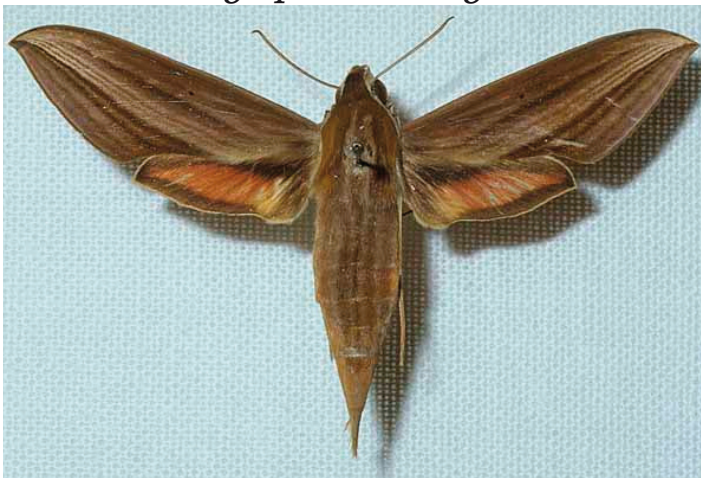
*Xylophanes germen*



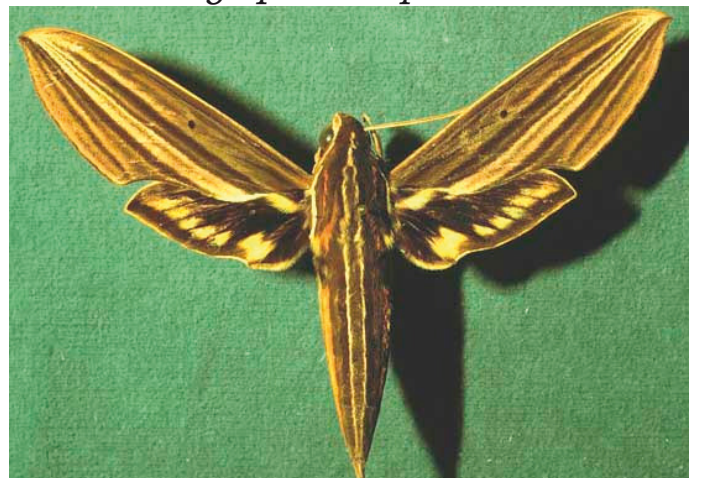
*Xylophanes libya*



*Xylophanes porcus*



*Xylophanes neoptolemus*



*Xylophanes titana*



*Xylophanes tersa* (Linnaeus)

*Xylophanes tersa*



*Hyles lineata* (Fabricius)

*Hyles lineata*



*Xylophanes amadis*



*Xylophanes belti*



*Xylophanes pluto*



*Xylophanes tyndarus*

No image, but may look like this ->  
(*C. spuria* not currently found in CNP)



*Cautethia spuria*

*Cautethia yucatana*



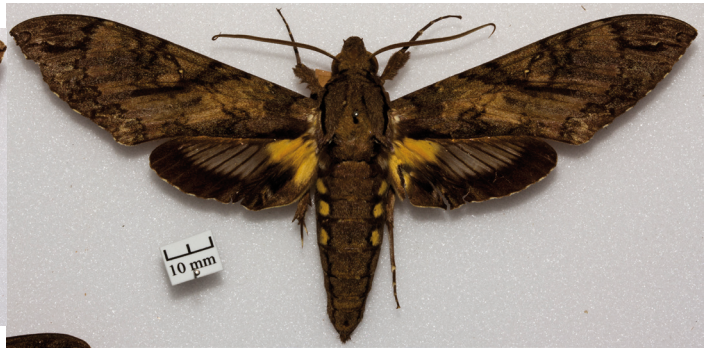
*Eumorpha triangulum*



*Agrius cingulata*



*Cocytius lucifer*



*Cocytius antaeus*



*Sphinx merops* Boisduval

*Sphinx merops*



*Manduca corallina* (Druce)

*Manduca corallina*



*Manduca ochus* (Klug)

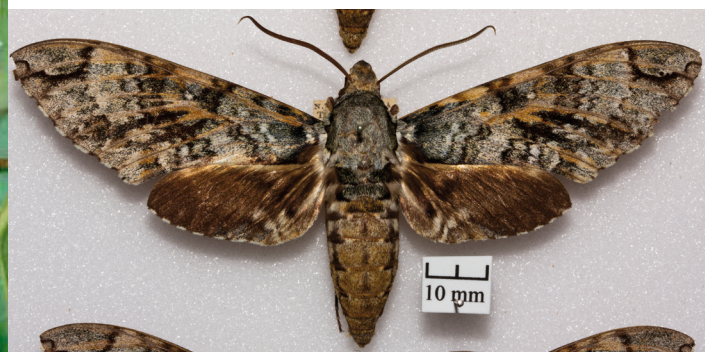
*Manduca ochus*



*Manduca sexta*



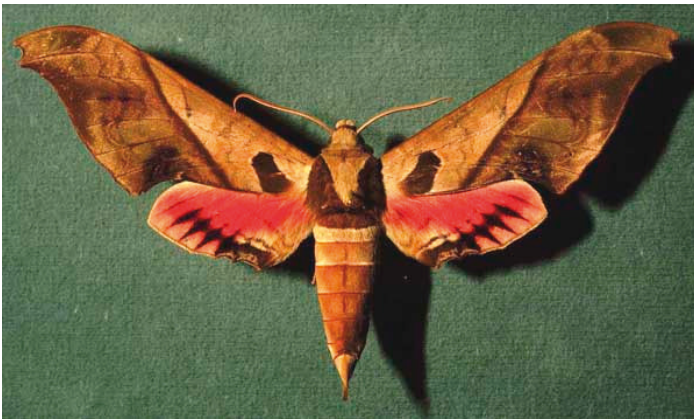
*Manduca pelenia*



*Manduca florestan*



*Adhemarius gannascus gannascu*



*Adhemarius dariensis*



*Adhemarius ypsilon*



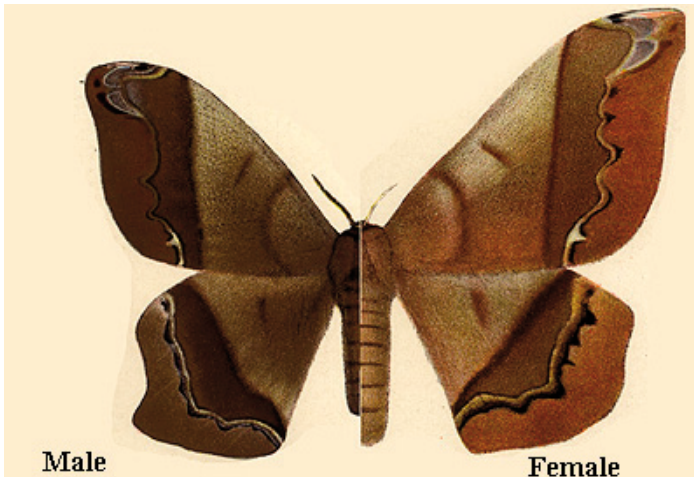
*Protambulyx eurycles*



*Protambulyx strigilis*

# Saturniidae

Note that at rest, wings will generally be held back against the body in a v-shape (such as in the image of *Dirphiopsis flora*). The majority of these images are of pinned specimens, which have their wings artificially arranged to show detail of the hindwings and abdomen.



*Arsenura armida*



*Rhescyntis hippodamia*





*Rothschildia lebeau*



*Rothschildia orizaba*



*Copaxa cydippe*



*Copaxa mazaorum*



*Copaxa multifenestrata*



*Copaxa rufunans*



*Copaxa sophronia*



*Automeris banus*



*Automeris belti*



*Automeris macphaili*



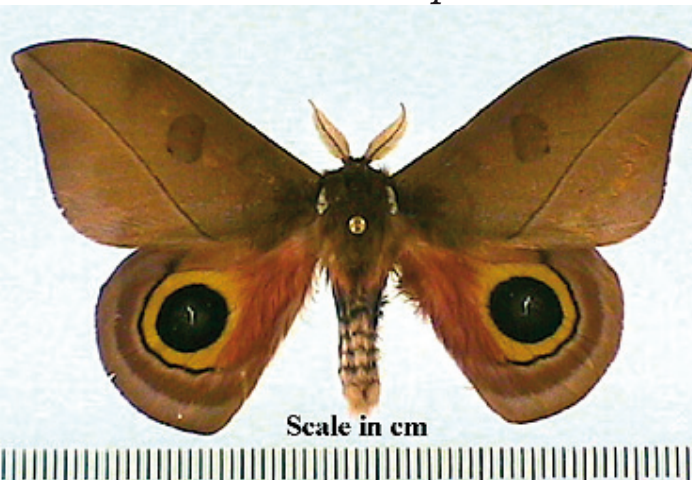
Scale in mm

*Automeris montezuma*

No picture

*Automeris lauta*

No picture



Scale in cm

*Automeris zozine*

*Paradirphia rectilineata*



*Dirphiopsis flora*



*Paradirphia semirosea*



*Hylesia continua alinda*



*Hylesia subaurea*



*Hylesia hubbelli*



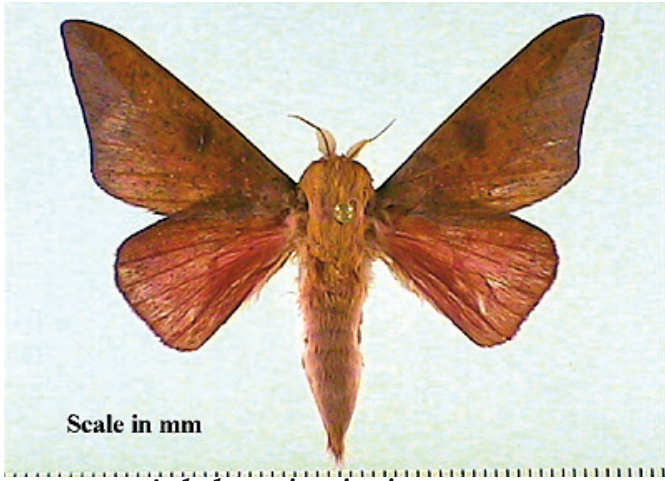
*Hyperchiria nausica*



*Periphoba arcaeii*



*Lonomia electra*



*Adeloneivaia irrorata*



*Adeloneivaia jason*



*Citheronia bellavista*



*Eacles imperialis*



*Eacles ormondei*



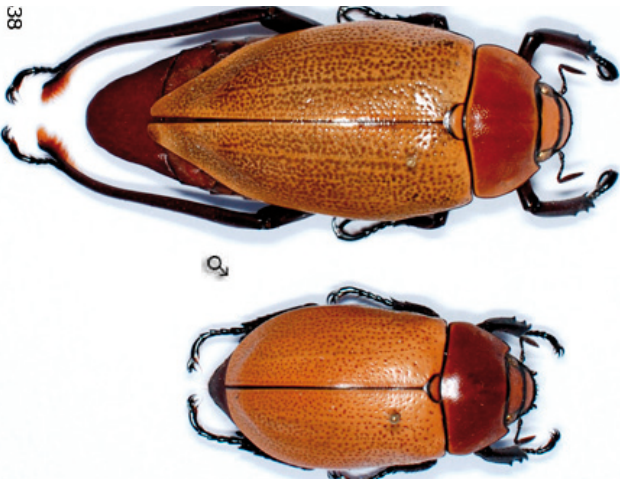
*Othorene purpurescens*



*Syssphinx molina*

Intentionally blank

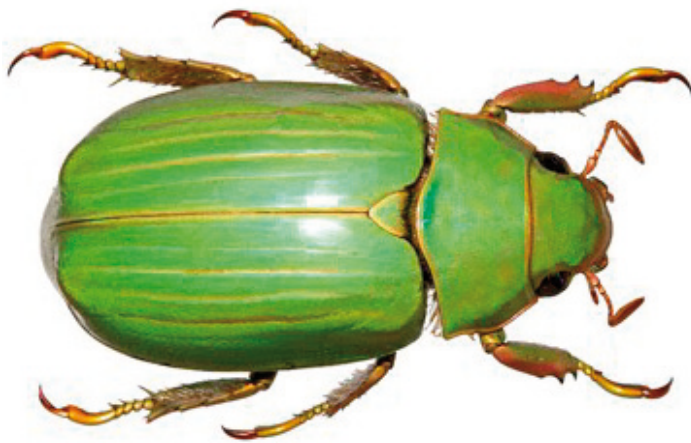
# Rutelinae



*Heterosternus buprestoides*



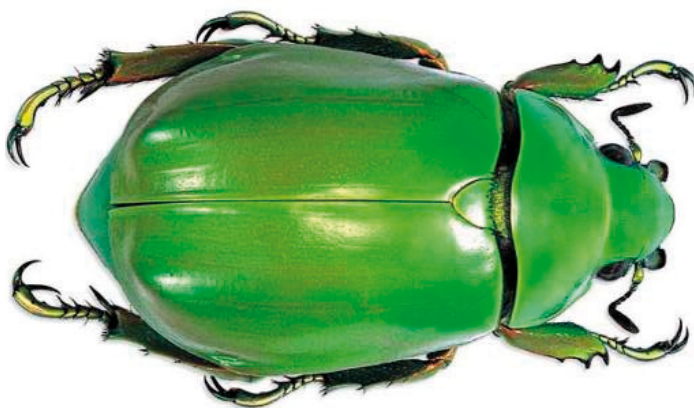
*Chrysina quetzalcoatl*



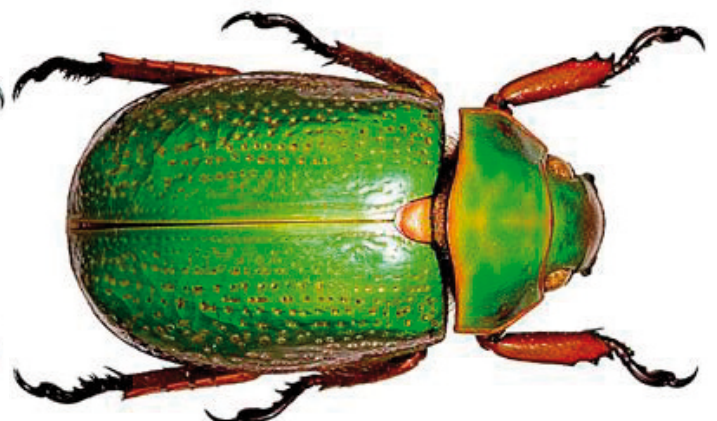
*Chrysina cusuquensis*



*Platycoelia humeralis*



*Chrysina karschi*



*Chrysina spectabilis*



*Chrysina strasseni*

Ventrally shiny

Ventrally matte



*Chrysina pastori*

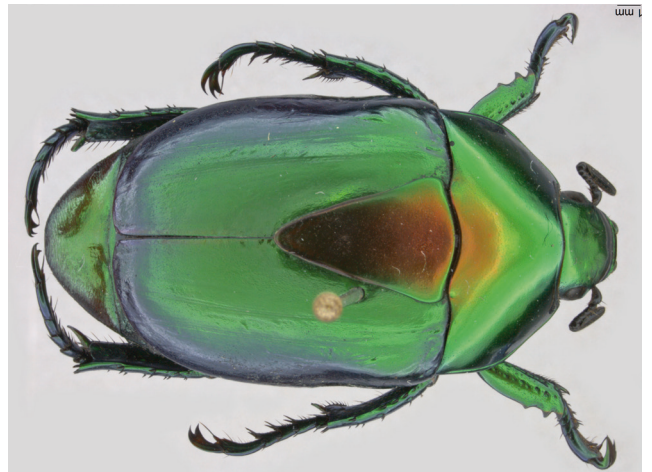
More silvery,  
looks like chrome



*Chrysina ericsmithi*



*Macropoidelimus mnizechi*



*Rutela sp. 1*