

NOCTUIDAE

ABAGROTIS DUANCA



CATERPILLAR Gray, brown, and black with subdorsal patches of orange; white scalloped spiracular band (mostly on A4 through A6) with brown markings within the band.

ADULT Wingspan 2.4 centimeters. Forewings dark gray-black with a pale gray postmedian border, and small reniform and orbicular spots that are obscure or outlined in white.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are common; feed on big sagebrush during spring. Adults are nocturnal; fly from mid- to late summer. Found in dry juniper woodlands and sagebrush rangelands; widely distributed in western North America.

NOCTUIDAE

ABAGROTIS GLENNI

CATERPILLAR Variable shades of green to pink-brown, later instars mostly pink-brown; white dashed line below black shading along dorsum of T1 through A10 and laterally on T1 through T3.

ADULT Wingspan 3.4 centimeters. Forewings pale gray-brown with a large white reniform spot and black basal and discal streaks.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are uncommon; feed on western juniper during early summer. Adults are nocturnal; fly in late summer. Found in juniper woodlands; widely distributed in western North America.

NOCTUIDAE

ACHYTONIX EIPASCHIA



CATERPILLAR Green, middorsal, subdorsal, and subspiracular white longitudinal bands extend from T1 through A10. Head green.

ADULT Wingspan 3.4 centimeters. Forewings dark gray to black with gray to red-brown discal spots and the reniform spot at the end of the discal cell slightly curved.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are uncommon; feed on various conifers, including Douglas-fir, during early summer. Adults are nocturnal; fly in late summer. Found in moist conifer forests; widely distributed in western North America.

NOCTUIDAE*ACRONICTA CYANESCENS*

CATERPILLAR Extremely long and dense white hairs obscure the green body.

ADULT Wingspan 4.7 centimeters. Forewings gray with black basal and subanal streaks.

ECOLOGY Only one individual caterpillar of this species has been field-collected during the fifteen years of our projects. Caterpillars are rare; feed on snowbrush during late spring. Adults are nocturnal; fly in midsummer. Found in dry forests of western North America.

NOCTUIDAE

ACRONICTA FUNERALIS



CATERPILLAR Early instars brown with white markings; fourth instar black with middorsal light yellow markings triangular to elliptical with transverse black streaks in the center and black sparse long hairs with flattened tips.

ADULT Wingspan 3.4 centimeters. Forewings pale gray with an irregular black band across the inner wing margin.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are uncommon; feed on broadleaf plants, such as blueberry, hazel, and white oak, during early summer. Adults are nocturnal; fly from late spring to early summer. Found in low elevation forests west of the Cascade Mountains; widely distributed in western North America.

NOCTUIDAE

GRAY DAGGER MOTH - *ACRONICTA GRISEA*

CATERPILLAR Green, dorsal brown patch wider on T1 and A4 through A8; outside edge of dorsal brown patches counter-shaded with yellow. Head brown with two conical points.

ADULT Wingspan 4.0 centimeters. Forewings dark gray with black basal and anal margin dashes, postmedian band with a sharply dentate margin. Hindwings white.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are common; feed on red alder during late summer. Adults are nocturnal; fly in midsummer. Found in moist forests; widely distributed in western North America.

NOCTUIDAE

ACRONICTA HESPERIDA



CATERPILLAR Covered with tufts of dense orange hairs on dorsum and white hairs laterally; anterior and posterior a few longer white and black “wild” hairs stick out beyond the tufts of shorter hairs.

ADULT Wingspan 5.3 centimeters. Forewings pale gray with reniform and orbicular discal spots strongly outlined.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are uncommon; feed on red alder and mountain alder during late summer. Adults are nocturnal; fly in midsummer. Found in moist forests; widely distributed in western North America.

NOCTUIDAE

YELLOW-HAIRED DAGGER MOTH - *ACRONICTA IMPLETA*

CATERPILLAR Two prominent tufts of hairs on thorax, partially encircled with white hair tufts; two gray hair pencils on dorsum of A8.

ADULT Wingspan 4.8 centimeters. Forewings dark black-gray with the postmedian band outlined as small white spots.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are uncommon; feed on red alder during spring. Adults are nocturnal; fly in early summer. Found in coastal rainforests; widely distributed in western North America.

NOCTUIDAE

ACRONICTA IMPRESSA - IMPRESSED DAGGER MOTH



CATERPILLAR The brown-black color of the body provides a strong contrast to the clusters of white hairs that originate from reddish orange spots.

ADULT Wingspan 3.8 centimeters. Forewings dark, mottled with gray, discal spots outlined and filled with darker gray. Hindwings gray.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are common; feed on wild roses and bitterbrush during midsummer. Adults are nocturnal; fly in early summer. Found in many forest habitats; widely distributed in western North America.

NOCTUIDAE

ACRONICTA MARMORATA



CATERPILLAR Yellow and brown; dark brown middorsal line. Head dark brown.

ADULT Wingspan 4.3 centimeters. Forewings mottled black, gray, and white with black basal and subanal dashes.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are very common; feed on oak during midsummer. Adults are nocturnal; fly from spring to early summer. Found in oak woodlands; widely distributed in Pacific western states.

NOCTUIDAE

ACRONICTA PERDITA



CATERPILLAR A broad white spiracular band constricts at each spiracle from T1 through A8; clusters of off-white and black hairs originate from pale orange-yellow spots on a brown-black body.

ADULT Wingspan 4.4 centimeters. Forewings gray and heavily suffused with black. Hindwings white in male (shown here) and gray in female.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are common; feed on bitterbrush during midsummer. Adults are nocturnal; fly from late spring to early summer. Found in dry forests including oak and juniper woodlands; widely distributed in western North America.

NOCTUIDAE

ALYPIA LANGTONI

CATERPILLAR Yellow-orange with irregular black markings on a white body; relatively long primary setae; dorsum of A9 with a brighter yellow streak. Head yellow with black spots.

ADULT Wingspan 3.0 centimeters. Forewings black; each forewing has two round, cream-yellow spots. Hindwings also with one or two round cream-yellow spots.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are common; feed on fireweed during midsummer. Adults are diurnal; fly from late spring to midsummer. Found in open habitats associated with montane forests; widely distributed in western North America.

NOCTUIDAE

AMPHIPYRA PYRAMIDOIDES - COPPER UNDERWING



CATERPILLAR Light green with sparse white spots; black spiracles; white spiracular line with shades of yellow; A8 with large dorsal hump.

ADULT Wingspan 5.1 centimeters. Forewings light brown to black-brown with a pale submarginal border and the discal spots greatly reduced. Hindwings orange to red-copper.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are common; feed on many broadleaf trees and shrubs, particularly big-leaf maple and manzanita, during spring. Adults are nocturnal; fly from late summer to fall. Found in wet conifer forests in western regions of California to British Columbia.

NOCTUIDAE*ANDROPOLIA AEDON*

CATERPILLAR Light brown and a shade of light green, with a black scalloped sublateral line; A8 with a transverse black line; venter light gray.

ADULT Wingspan 4.6 centimeters. Forewings gray with distinct discal spots outlined in black, including a jagged, dentate black submarginal line.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are common; feed on alder, maple, ocean spray, and ninebark during spring. Adults are nocturnal; fly from mid- to late summer. Found in wet conifer forests in the Pacific West.

NOCTUIDAE

ANDROPOLIA DIVERSILINEATA



CATERPILLAR Gray-brown with a black scalloped sublateral line; thoracic and abdominal segments with a subdorsal black patch; A8 with a transverse black line; venter gray-brown.

ADULT Wingspan 4.4 centimeters. Forewings gray with very obscure markings except for a jagged, dentate black submarginal line. Males have pectinate antennae.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are common; feed on bitterbrush during early summer. Adults are nocturnal; fly in late summer. Found in pine forests and juniper woodlands; widely distributed in western North America.

NOCTUIDAE*ANDROPOLIA THEODORI*

CATERPILLAR Dark brown with a black scalloped sublateral line; A8 with a transverse black line; venter pink-white.

ADULT Wingspan 5.2 centimeters. Forewings gray with shades of red and a black, sharply dentate submarginal line. Hindwings faint red-tan; each hindwing has a dark medial line and discal spot.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are common; feed on snowbrush and ocean spray during spring. Adults are nocturnal; fly from mid- to late summer. Found in dry forests and woodlands in western North America.

NOCTUIDAE

ASEPTIS BINOTATA



CATERPILLAR Dark green dorsum and light green venter with off-white speckles; white spiracular band, dorsal edge with a red line; faint discontinuous off-white subdorsal line. Head green.

ADULT Wingspan 3.4 centimeters. Forewings dark brown; each forewing has a round yellow mark on the outer margin of the reniform spot.

ECOLOGY This species possesses the broadest foodplant range among the Pacific Northwest Lepidoptera. Caterpillars are very common, generalist feeders on numerous flowering trees and shrubs, such as maple, alder, madrone, hazelnut, Indian plum, ocean spray, currant, willow, and snowberry, during spring. Adults are nocturnal; fly in midsummer. Found in moist forests; widely distributed in western North America.

NOCTUIDAE

ASEPTIS ETHNICA

CATERPILLAR Body and head mottled in shades of green; a yellow-white spiracular band extends from A7 to anal prolegs. Head green.

ADULT Wingspan 3.9 centimeters. Forewings dark brown to black with the only noticeable markings the white flecks along the postmedian line.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are common; feed on manzanita and madrone during spring. Adults are nocturnal; fly in midsummer. Found in dry forests and woodlands in western Oregon and California.

NOCTUIDAE

Aseptis fumosa



CATERPILLAR Dark green dorsum and light green venter; white spiracular line, dorsal edge with a red line; faint discontinuous yellow longitudinal line and oblique subdorsal lines. Head green.

ADULT Wingspan 3.8 centimeters. Forewings brown with the reniform and orbicular spots distinctly outlined in dark brown.

ECOLOGY Caterpillars are common; feed on bitterbrush and species of *Ceanothus* during spring. Adults are nocturnal; fly in midsummer. Found in dry forests in the Pacific Northwest.

NOCTUIDAE

ALFALFA SEMILOOPER - *AUTOGRAPHA CALIFORNICA*

CATERPILLAR Two pair of midabdominal prolegs, a trait indicative of the Plusiinae. Green; distinct white spiracular line and faint discontinuous longitudinal dorsal white lines.

ADULT Wingspan 4.2 centimeters. Forewings mottled gray with a large white comma-shaped stigma. Hindwings yellow with a broad black submarginal border.

ECOLOGY This species is an economic pest in vegetable crops and also occurs on native plants in forests and woodlands. Caterpillars are common; feed on numerous herbaceous plants from early spring to midsummer. Adults are nocturnal; fly from spring to fall. Found in agricultural and urban areas, and open habitats associated with lowland and montane forests; widely distributed in western North America.