

# **Pest Watch**

Saturday, May 11, 2024

# Spongy Moth



- Formerly known as the Gypsy Moth
- Outbreak has been slowly moving southward
- 1<sup>st</sup> instar caterpillars are ballooning
- Hairs can cause skin irritation

# Spongy Moth



Karla Salp, Washington State Department of Agriculture, Bugwood.org

- **4<sup>th</sup> instars begin to feed at night**
- **Known as the Great Defoliator**
- **Favorite Host: Oak**
- **Other preferred species:** aspen, apple & crabapple, basswood (linden), birch, willow
- **Deciduous trees can withstand two to three successive years of defoliation**

# Spongy Moth



Bill McNee, Wisconsin Dept of Natural Resources, Bugwood.org

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# Spongy Moth

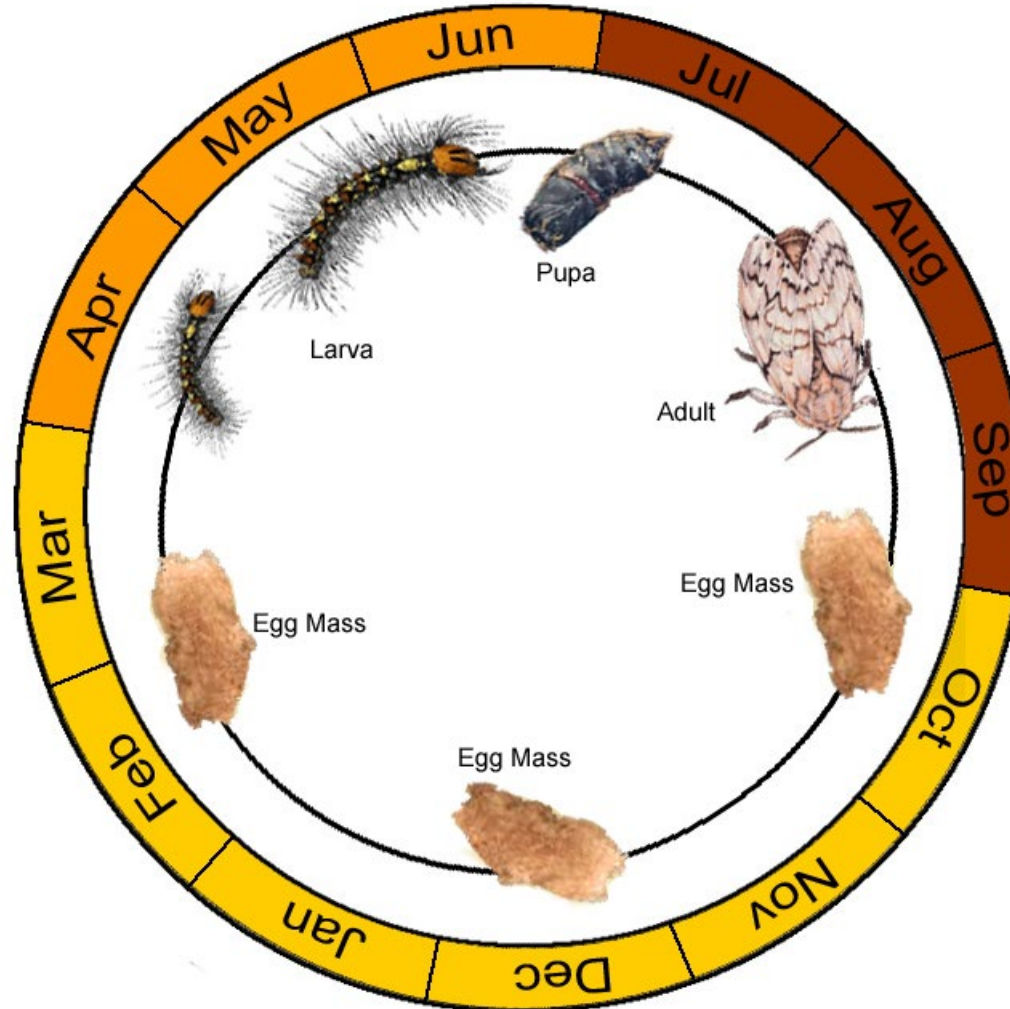
- Make a burlap trap



University of Wisconsin- Madison Extension

# Spongy Moth

- Life cycle



# Eastern Tent Caterpillar



Robert L. Anderson, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org

- **Currently emerging**
- **Create webbed nest in tree branch crotches**
- **Live in colonies**
- **Leave nest at night to feed**



# Spongy Moth v. Eastern Tent Caterpillar



Karla Salp, Washington State Department of Agriculture, Bugwood.org



Tim Tigner, Virginia Department of Forestry, Bugwood.org



**Any Questions?**

