

# 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



- 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

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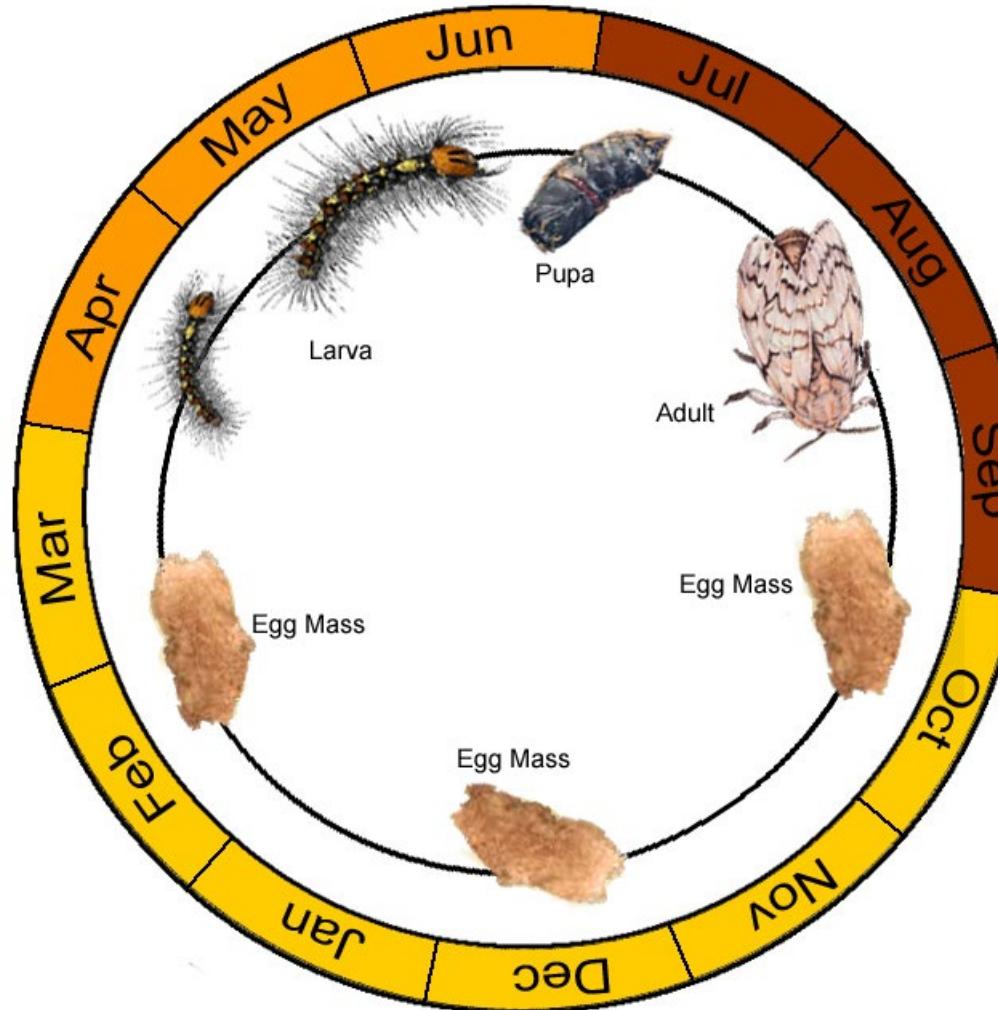
- Make a burlap trap



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?