CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Pine processionary caterpillar

Thaumetopea pityocampa

The pine processionary caterpillar is the larval stage of the pine processionary moth, notorious for its unique behavior of moving in long nose-to-tail processions. Native to southern Europe, North A…

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate
Family: Thaumetopoeidae
Habitat: Pine forests
Diet: Herbivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 1-2 years (from egg to adult moth)
Weight: 0.1-0.2 grams (as caterpillar)
Scientific name: Thaumetopea pityocampa

Did you know?

- The caterpillar's hairs can become airborne and cause respiratory problems in humans and animals, even without direct contact.
- Pine processionary caterpillars are famous for their processional behavior, where hundreds may march in a single file line. Their urticating hairs ar…

What I learned

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