

Morphologic characteristics

THEIR BODY IS COVERED WITH LONG HAIRS, AND CAN BE 40MM LONG. THEY HAVE A BLACK HEAD AND THEIR BODY IS INITIALLY GREEN, TURNING BROWNISH GREY WHEN THEY GROW UP. HAIRS THAT COVER THEIR BODY ARE WHITE, BESIDES AN ORANGE LINE OVER THEIR BACK.

*Thaumetopoea
pityocampa larva
(processionary
pine moth)*



HABITAT

They are plentiful on pine woods in Southern Europe and South America.



LIFE CYCLE

Feeding

THESE CATERPILLARS FEED FROM PINE LEAVES DURING THE NIGHT AND GO BACK TO THEIR NESTS AT DAWN. WE CAN SEE THEY HAVE BEEN THERE THANKS TO THE COLOUR OF THE LEAVES.

Grey coloured butterflies appear during the summer and lay eggs, that take about a month to be born. With the arrival of the cold, they form their nests and only leave to feed. Between January and March, they go to the floor and wait to transform into butterflies.

During the summer, depending on food, some caterpillars transform into butterflies, starting a new cycle.



IES LA BUREBA

Proyecto pin-aves