



Checking Gypsy Moth Traps

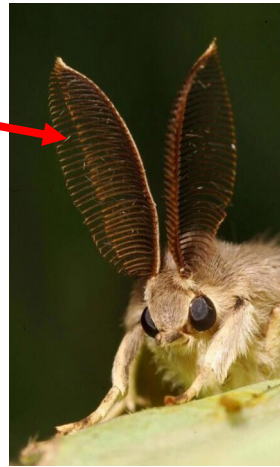


Gypsy moth trapping

Trapping for gypsy moth has occurred since the 1970s. The trap consists of three sides with small entrance holes on two ends. Inside is a thread saturated with synthetically-produced sex pheromone of the female gypsy moth. **Only male gypsy moths are attracted to the trap.** The males enter the trap and get stuck on the non-toxic glue panels inside.

Traps are deployed during the mating season (May-September). They are effective for all subspecies of gypsy moth, including European and Asian gypsy moths. Traps should be checked every 2-4 weeks as moths quickly degrade and are consumed by predators.

Other insects, including other species of moths, will inadvertently be captured inside the trap. **Use this guide as a screening tool to recognize male gypsy moths.** Female moths (below) are unlikely to be captured.



Male gypsy moths ID

- 1-1 1/2" (20-25 mm) long
- Antennae long and feather-like
- Mottled tannish-brown but considerable variation in coloration among individuals
- However, front wings with light to dark "J" or "V" shape and wavy lines. (highlighted in red)

Male gypsy moth photo credits (clockwise from upper left): G. Csoka, wiki commons, USFS Region 8, T. Arcand

Female gypsy moth ID

- Larger than males (1-3/4" or 35 mm long)
- White bodies and dark "J" or "V" on front wing
- See photos, left



V. Petko



H. Lemme

To report a detection, call or email Wyatt Williams, Invasive Species Specialist, Oregon Dept. of Forestry: 503-945-7472 wyatt.williams@oregon.gov