

# polyphemus moth

## *Antheraea polyphemus*

### FEATURES

The polyphemus moth is yellow-brown to red-brown and has an eyespot on each wing. Its wingspan is four to five inches. The feathery antennae are larger in the male than in the female. The large larva is green with a few spiny projections and dark markings.

### BEHAVIORS

The polyphemus moth may be found statewide in Illinois. The adult does not feed. The larva eats the leaves of trees and shrubs. The pupa is formed in a leaf on the ground, where it overwinters. One generation per year is produced.

### TAXONOMY

Kingdom: Animalia  
Phylum: Arthropoda  
Class: Insecta  
Order: Lepidoptera  
Family: Saturniidae

### ILLINOIS STATUS

common, native

### ILLINOIS RANGE





adult



larva

antenna



## **Aquatic Habitats**

bottomland forests

## **Woodland Habitats**

bottomland forests; southern Illinois lowlands; upland deciduous forests

## **Prairie and Edge Habitats**

none