



Photo credit: Andrei Sourakov, Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida.



Adult female webworms lay up to 900 eggs on the underside of leaves

Photo credit: Mark Dreiling, Bugwood.org



Adult fall webworms have a wingspan between 1.4-1.7 inches

# Fall Webworm

*Hyphantria cunea*

## Appearance:

Fall webworms come in two distinct larval forms:

### Black-headed

Black-headed larvae are green/yellow in color with black bumps along the back developing with maturity.

Black headed webworm adults are solid white.

### Red-headed

Red-headed larvae are green/yellow with long white hairs, orange tubercles, and a dark stripe along their back.

Red-headed webworm adults are white with brown spots.



Photo credit: Elizabeth McCarty, University of Georgia



Photo credit: Elizabeth McCarty, University of Georgia

## Life Cycle:



Eggs

Photo credit: Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Forestry, Bugwood.org



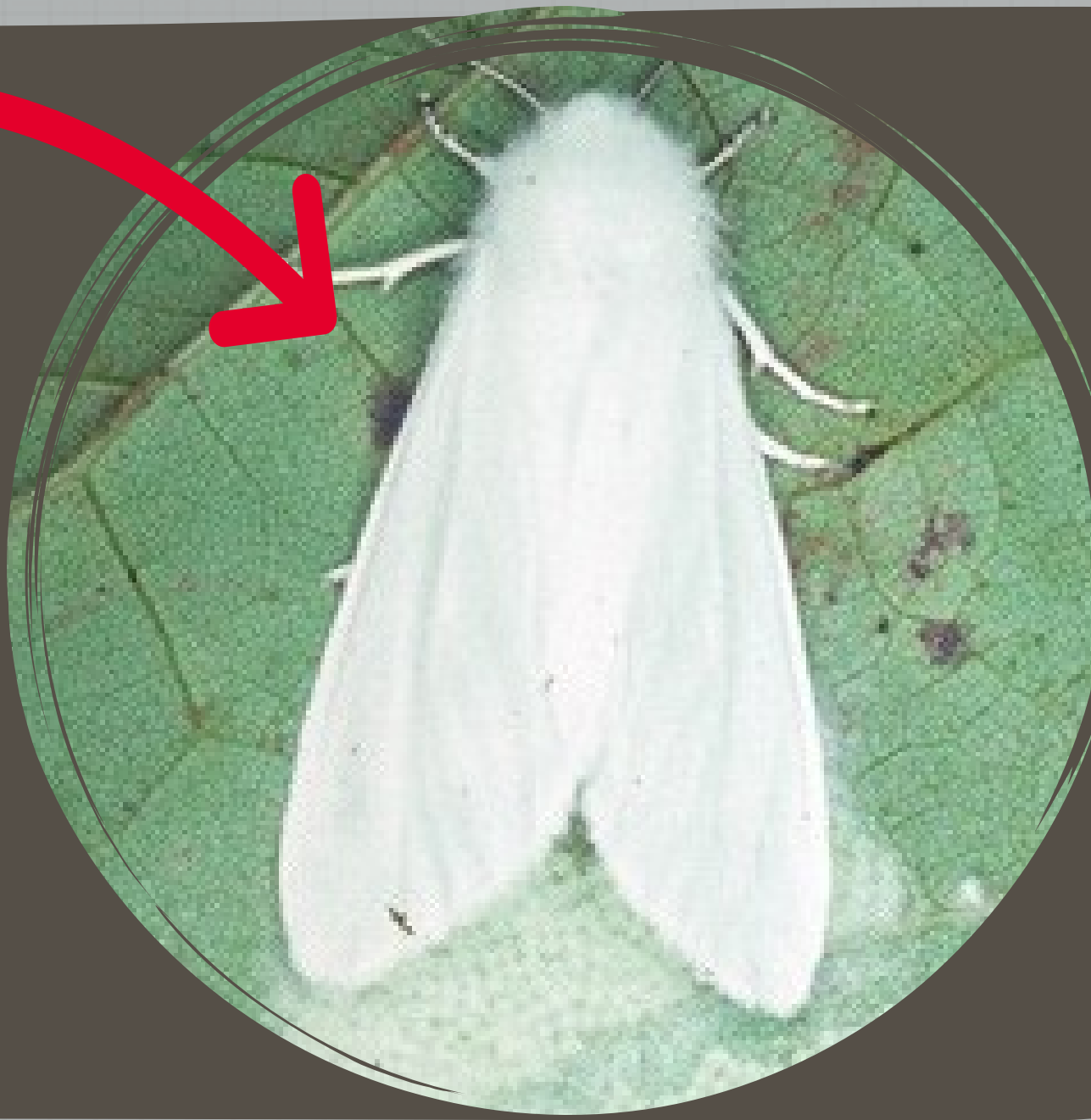
Larvae

Photo credit: G. Keith Douce, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org



Pupae

Photo credit: Ministry of Agriculture and Regional Development, Ministry of Agriculture and Regional Development, Bugwood.org



Adult moth

Photo credit: Lacy L. Hyche, Auburn University, Bugwood.org

## Fun Facts:



### Fall Webworm Life Cycle:

Adult Female webworms lay eggs on the underside of leaves.

In 1-2 weeks larvae hatch. They begin spinning their silk webs and feeding on nearby leaves.

Larvae pupate in thin cocoons in the soil. Adult moths emerge from the cocoon to repeat the cycle.

Photo credit: Elizabeth McCarty, University of Georgia



### Silken tents and Defoliation:

Larval fall webworms spin silk tents around the foliage of trees. They consume the leaves inside and outside of the silk tents.

Fall webworms do not harm trees. It is best to leave them alone and appreciate native insect diversity.