

MAY 2024

Sublette County Ag. & Natural Resources Extension Newsletter

**9660 US Highway 191
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SUBLETTE COUNTY AG. AND NATURAL RESOURCES EXTENSION

UPCOMING EVENTS:

MAY

**21ST: PINEDALE 4-H SMALL LIVESTOCK
TAGGING**

**28TH: BIG PINEY 4-H SMALL LIVESTOCK
TAGGING**

JUNE

**1ST: SMALL LIVESTOCK TAGS DUE TO
OFFICE**

**6TH-8TH: WYOMING STOCKGROWER'S
ASSOCIATION SUMMER MEETING,
DOUGLAS**

**13TH: WEST AREA 4-H SHOWCASE
SHOWDOWN**

**18TH-20TH: STATE SHOWCASE
SHOWDOWN**



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Newsletter

Highlights and Upcoming Events

**White Satin Moth Facts
and Options**

**Sublette County Hay
Survey**

**UW Extension
Entomology Page**

**UW Sheep Program
Resources & Webinar**

**UWE Yard and Garden
Online Resources**

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the Sublette ANR
Extension
Facebook Page!](#)**

**[Sublette County
Extension Webpage](#)**

The White Satin Moth

(*Leucoma salicis*)



Understanding this invasive pest in Sublette County and Wyoming

Species Description

Adults: Solid white wings, white hairy body
Wingspan of 1 ½ to 2"

Larvae: 1.75" caterpillar when fully grown, grey-brown or black with row of light-colored oblong spots between row of smaller red-brown spots, covered in tufts of red-brown hairs

Pupae: Dark brown or black, hair covered cocoon, surrounded by loose silk, often rolled in leaves

Eggs: Green, flat circles laid in clusters covered in foam



Adult Moth

History & Distribution

Origin: Introduced to the US in the 1920s from Eurasia, now found throughout Canada & the northern USA.

Wyoming: First reported in Uinta County, now found throughout the western counties of the state.

Sublette County: In the past several years, numbers have increased noticeably throughout the summer. Cases of moderate to severe defoliation of ornamental & native trees such as aspens & narrow-leaf cottonwoods.



Larva (Caterpillar)

Life Cycle

Adults: Emerge in July & August, lay eggs in late summer.

Eggs: Hatch in August and September

Caterpillars: Tiny caterpillars emerge in late summer/early fall & over winter in the cracks on the bark of trees, & reemerge in early summer.

They continue feeding & grow through July before cocooning to repeat the cycle.



Egg Cluster with foamy coating

Damage & Concerns

- Larva feed on poplar, cottonwood, aspen & willow trees, consuming entire leaves.
- Large numbers can cause tree death, especially in older trees, through excessive defoliation.
- Mature caterpillars can move between trees, spreading damage.
- Defoliation most prominent in mid summer.



Pupa (Cocoon)

Prevention

- Keep trees healthy with fertilizer in the spring & plenty of watering, especially in dry conditions & before frost set in the fall. Drought-stressed trees are less likely to recover from infestations
- Sticky bands can prevent caterpillars from spreading from nearby trees
- Scout for egg clusters, caterpillars & cocoons throughout summer, & react quickly if found



Cocoon w/ silk and wrapped leaves

Management

- Carefully pressure wash eggs & larva off leaves & branches, being careful not to damage foliage
- Place sticky bands around trunks
- Natural predators such as birds, wasps & lacewings can help control moths over time

Treatment Options

- Spraying foliage with a microbial insecticide containing the bacterium *Bacillus thuringiensis var kurstaki* (*Btk*)
 - Btk infects and kills larvae
 - Considered environmentally safe
- Insecticides are also available from Sublette County Weed & Pest with cost share opportunities

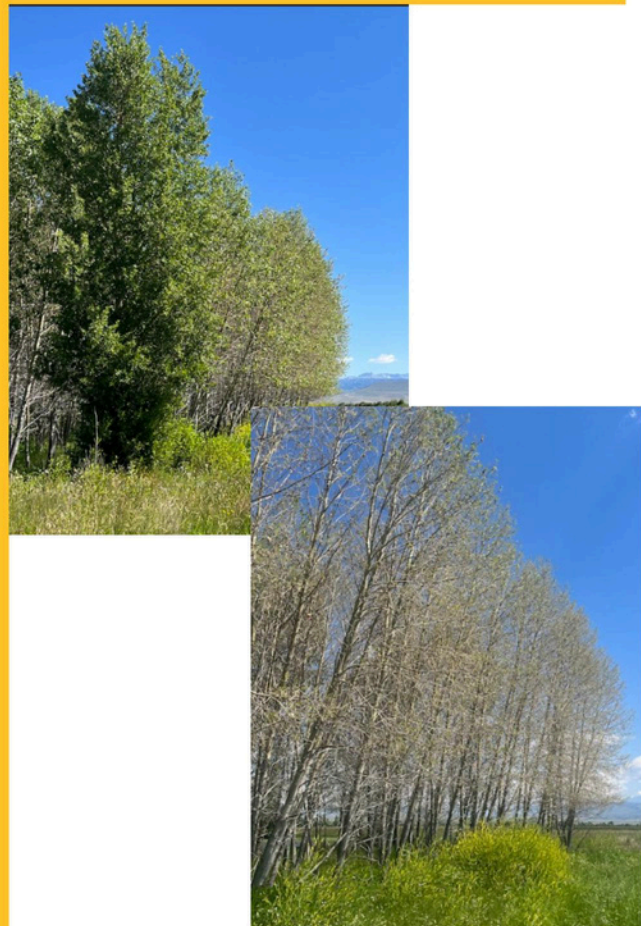
For more details on White Satin Moth control, contact us at:

Sublette County Weed & Pest

- Phone: (307) 367 4728 Email: scwpoffice@gmail.com

Sublette County Extension Office

- Phone: (307) 367 4380 Email: dmontgo8@uwyo.edu



Caterpillar defoliation before & after

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**Sublette County Hay Producers:
We need your help!**

The Sublette County Extension Office is seeking to collect hay sample results from willing producers in the area. These will remain completely anonymous and will help us better understand hay quality across Sublette County.

By simply sending lab results for hay you've tested, you will contribute to a comprehensive dataset that will benefit ranchers throughout western Wyoming.

Your participation is vital to the success of this survey! Together, we can enhance our understanding of hay quality in the area and improve livestock nutrition strategies.

Lab reports can be emailed to dmontgo8@uwyo.edu, mailed to PO Box 579 in Pinedale or dropped off at the Extension Office. Please include the closest town, forage species, and irrigation strategy if not specified in the report!

For questions or more information, email Dagan or call (307) 367-4380. Thank you for your support!

**SUBLETTE COUNTY EXTENSION VOLUNTARY HAY
ANALYSIS SURVEY**

The Sublette Extension office is continuing a survey of hay quality across the county. We are asking any hay producer who would be willing to share with us lab reports from hay testing they have done. We would greatly appreciate any help we can get! See the flyer for more details and please feel free to share with others!

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UW EXTENSION ENTOMOLOGY RESOURCES FOR INSECT ID

Wondering what that strange bug is you found in your garden? Not sure if you should be concerned? UW Extension has an entire webpage dedicated to insect identification, information, and resources. Click the image to view the webpage where we have factsheets, ID tools, contact info, and much more.

UWE SHEEP PROGRAM RESOURCES AND YOUTUBE WEBINAR

Sublette County may not be the sheep producing county some of our neighbors are, but for those still interested, the UW sheep program has a great webpage of sheep production resources and articles, with everything from nutrition factsheets to published studies on lamb quality. Click the link to the right to view our webpage and feel free to share with anyone you know in the sheep business. View our latest webinar [here](#).



UWYO LAWN AND GARDEN

Gardening in western Wyoming is tough, but it can be a rewarding way to produce food. This webpage from UWE Lawn and Garden is here to help you address the challenges of raising plants in a tough environment. Click the image to view resources on planting windows, water, and more.

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