

Cerura iberica

(Poplar sphinx)

What does it attack?

It attacks poplars of all ages. Young plantations are more susceptible.

How to identify it?

Caterpillars are up to 7 cm long, generally green in color, with a round face and black eyes and two characteristic appendages on the rear (*Figs. 1 and 2*).

Adult (moth) hairy with grayish striped wings (*Fig. 3*). Wingspan up to 7.5 cm.

What damage does it cause?

The caterpillars actively consume the leaves. They can even consume the petiole in the last larval stages if food is scarce. It generates a loss of diameter growth and even tree death if the defoliation severity is high, especially when it attacks young trees.

When to see it?

The adults rest during the day on the trunks, from April to June. The caterpillars can be found on the leaves and on the trunks until the end of July.

You can find more information about this pest by clicking on this [link](#).



Figure 1

(Source: <https://www.jardineriaon.com/>)



Figure 2



Figure 3

(Source: <https://www.leps.it/>)