

PARTHENOGENESIS IN GUM EMPEROR MOTH *ANTHRAEA EUCALYPTI* (SCOTT)

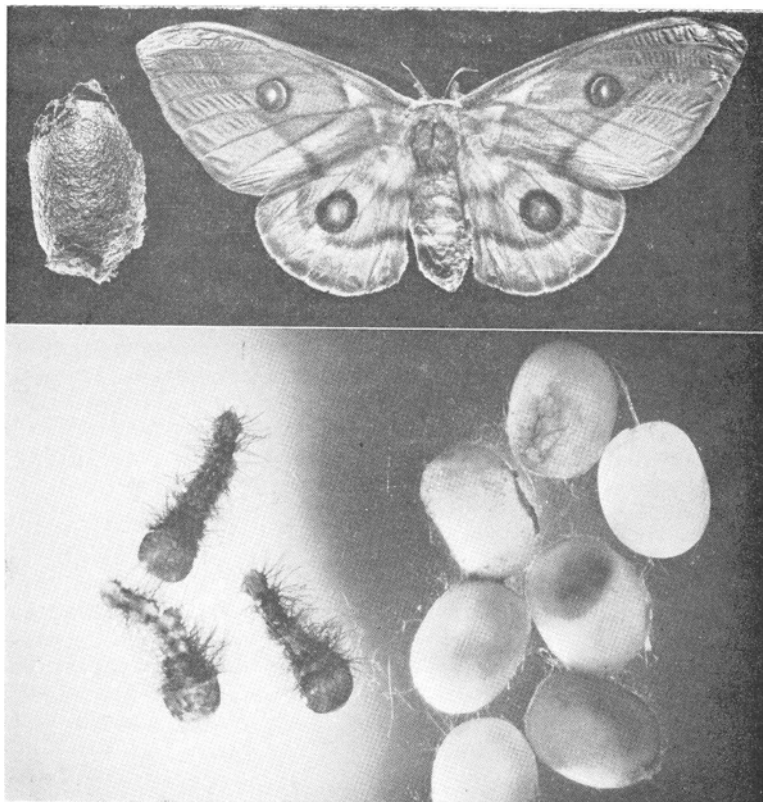
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A caterpillar sent by Department of Agriculture, Masterton, to Entomology Division Sub-station, Lincoln, for identification pupated in transit. The moth emerged and laid approximately forty eggs, she had another 330 in her abdomen. The "laid" eggs were placed on damp filter paper and stored ready for photographing. These eggs hatched but unfortunately they were not checked often enough and the larvae died, probably of starvation.

This single specimen of *Antheraea eucalypti* (Scott) * emerged under laboratory conditions in a locality where *A. eucalypti* does not naturally exist, so there was definitely no male contact made. Although both males and females occur naturally in New Zealand there is no doubt that this is a case of parthenogenesis.

*Identification of this moth was checked by I. F. B. Common, Senior Principal Research Scientist, C.S.I.R.O. Division of Entomology, Canberra.



Gum Emperor Moth, pupal case, eggs and larvae.