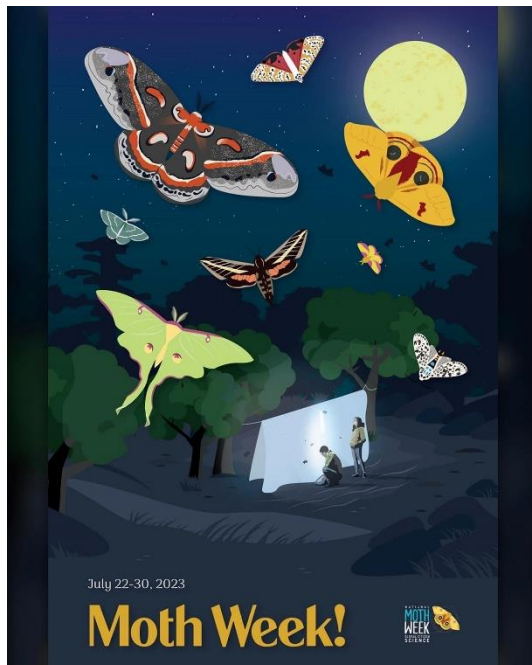


**Deep Dive: *Identifying Moths***  
**Blackland Prairie TMN**  
**July 11, 2023**  
**Kimberlie Sasan**



[nationalmothweek.org/](https://nationalmothweek.org/)



Artwork by Sarah Reimer

**July 22-30, 2023**

Public Gatherings:

July 22 - Connemara Preserve, Allen \*

July 22 - Spring Creek Forest, Garland

July 25 – River Legacy, Arlington

July 28 - John Bunker Sands, Seagoville (\$)

July 29 - Acton Nature Center, Granbury

\*Kimberlie will be attending this event.

## [iNaturalist](#)

- Search only DFW Area: Account Settings>Account>Default Search Place = “DFW Metroplex, TX, US”
- Search string: **&without\_taxon\_id=47224**
- Lepidoptera (Butterflies & Moths): [https://www.inaturalist.org/observations?taxon\\_id=47157](https://www.inaturalist.org/observations?taxon_id=47157)
- Moths only:  
[https://www.inaturalist.org/observations?taxon\\_id=47157&without\\_taxon\\_id=47224](https://www.inaturalist.org/observations?taxon_id=47157&without_taxon_id=47224)
- YOUR moths only:  
[https://www.inaturalist.org/observations?taxon\\_id=47157&without\\_taxon\\_id=47224&user\\_id=kimberlietx](https://www.inaturalist.org/observations?taxon_id=47157&without_taxon_id=47224&user_id=kimberlietx) (replace my username with your username)





# [Moth Photographers Group](https://mothphotographersgroup.msstate.edu/)

<https://mothphotographersgroup.msstate.edu/>

Plate Series>Try Walking Through the Moth Families

Select Family (Fast)>View By Region>Texas

<https://mothphotographersgroup.msstate.edu/WalkThroughIndex.shtml>

<a href="#">Plate 1</a>	Micromoths: Low-numbered Families	285 photos	0001-2700
			
<a href="#">Plate 2</a>	Micromoths: Tortricidae to Pyraloidea, etc.	329 photos	2701-6255
			
<a href="#">Plate 3</a>	Macromoths: Geometridae to Saturniidae	248 photos	6256-7770
			
<a href="#">Plate 4</a>	Macromoths: Spingidae to Nolidae	288 photos	7701-991160
			

# [BugGuide.net](http://bugguide.net)

Silhouette Key to Major Moth Families: <https://bugguide.net/node/view/21675>



Use the advanced search to narrow down which species have been seen in the county already.

← → ↻ [https://bugguide.net/adv\\_search/bgsearch.php](https://bugguide.net/adv_search/bgsearch.php)

[bugguide.net](http://bugguide.net)

### BugGuide Advanced Search

Complete the form to search on one or more parameters. Leave items blank to ignore them in the search.

User ID #:

Taxon ID #:  (you may also enter the text of the taxon name and choose from the drop-down)

Exclude images at species level  1227839: Unidentifiable Early Instar **Sphinxidae** Larvae

Suppress thumbnail images  193: **Sphinxidae** (Sphinx Moths)

Phrase in Description:

Month:  ^  
February  
March  
April v

States/Provinces:  ^  
Pennsylvania  
Prince Edward Island  
Quebec  
Rhode Island  
Saskatchewan  
South Carolina  
South Dakota  
Tennessee  
Texas v

County/Region:

City/Location:

Adult  v

# Discover Life ID Guides

<https://www.discoverlife.org/mp/20q?guide=Moth&cl=US/TX>

Use wing shapes, colors, resting position, etc to narrow down IDs with photos.

Discover Life | All living things | Moth  
 Help | Credits | Guides | Restart | Checklist | Images off | Menu | Report | Search

Basic steps:  
 1. Answer one or more questions on right by clicking checkboxes. It's okay to check multiple boxes. Then click any 'search' button.  
 2. Results appear on left. Click the 'simplify' button to get more questions.  
 3. Repeat steps 1 and 2, narrowing down the possibilities.  
 4. A 'COMPARE IMAGES' link appears on left when under 100 kinds match. Use this to compare kinds.

Click **Restart** to search again.  
 Click **Guides** to list other guides.  
 Click [here](#) if you're a new user.

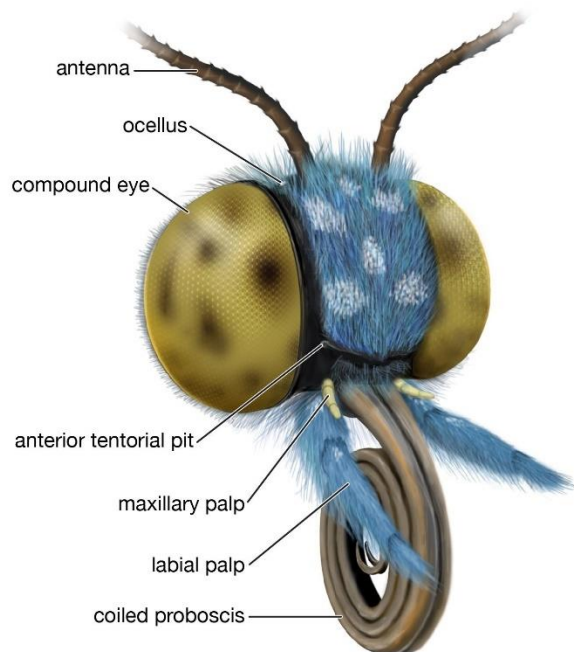
**2810 kinds match in US, TX**  
[Abablemma bilineata](#) (help)  
[Abablemma brimleyana](#) (help)  
[Sigala brimleyana](#)  
[Abagrotis mexicana](#) (help)  
[Abrostola microvalis](#) (help)  
 Minute Oval Abrostola  
[Acallis gripalis](#) (help)  
[Acantholoca oraei](#) (help)

**3. A Forewing main color** (Explain) **search**  
 353  Black 1643  Brown 1197  Gray 77  Green 380  Orange 825  White 144  Z Unknown

**4. A Forewing distinctive color** (Explain) **search**  
 125  Blue 129  Green 2019  None 652  Orange 338  Red 507  Yellow 136  Z No photo

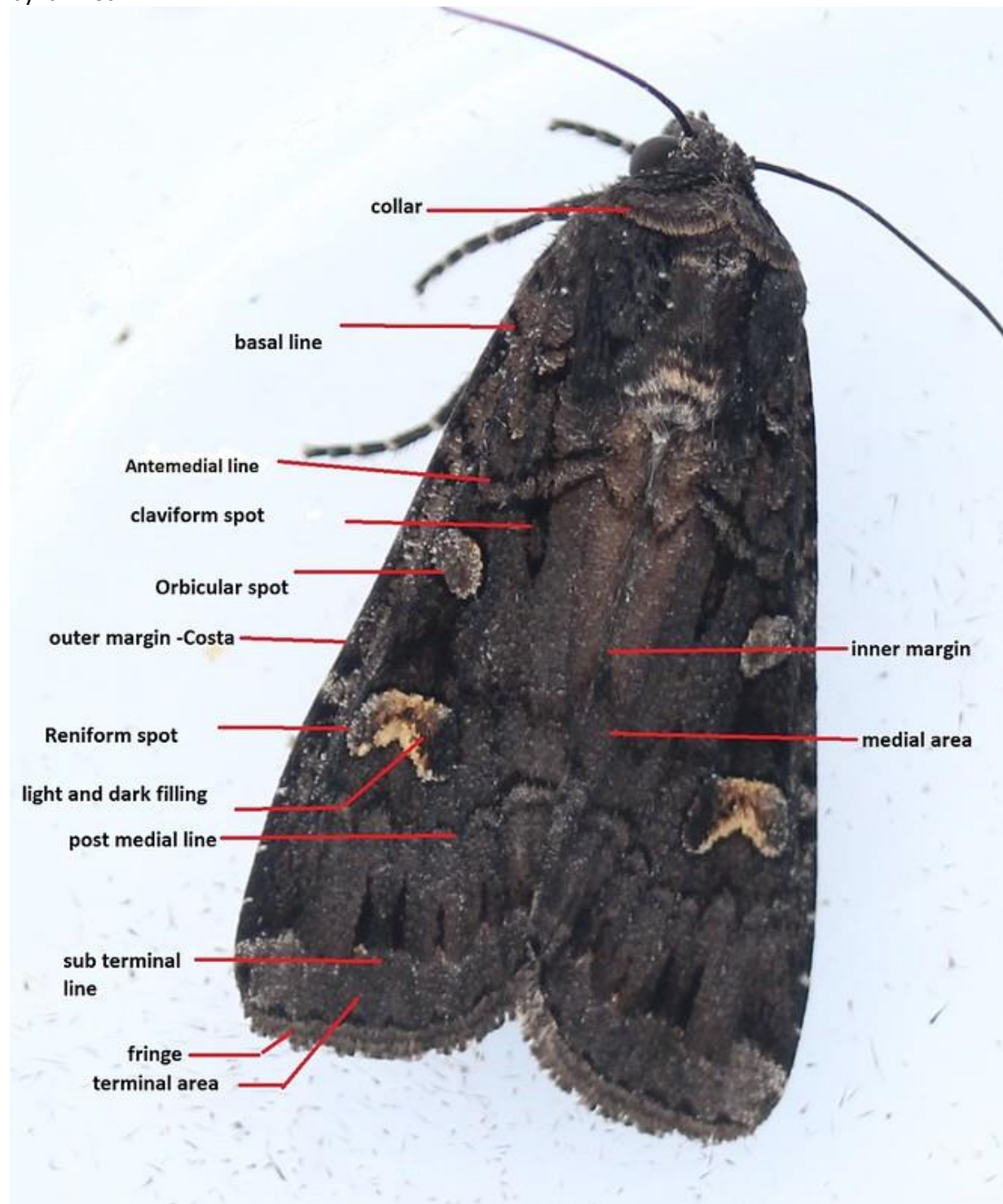
**5. A Forewing distinctive pattern** (Explain) **search**  
 1416  Band 64  Checkered 683  Complex 229  None 191  Speckled 1266  Spot 258  Stripe 257  Veins 20  Z No photo

## Curved Horn Moths (Superfamily Gelechioidea)



## Moth Wing Features

by Ian Toal



# Peterson Field Guide to Moths of Southeastern North America

by Seabrooke Leckie and David Beadle  
Amazon \$28

## Peterson Field Guide to Moths

of Southeastern North America



Seabrooke Leckie & David Beadle

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- LONG-HORNED GRASS-TUBEWORM**  
*Acrotaphus mortipennella* 30-0059 (0366) Common  
TL 12-16 mm. Pale straw-colored FW is lightly speckled darker with irregular dark brown blotches in median and ST areas. Terminal line and fringe are weakly checkered when fresh. Long labial palps curve backward over head. **HOSTS:** Unknown. **RANGE:** TN west to OK, locally south to FL and TX.
- CLEMENS' GRASS-TUBEWORM**  
*Acrotaphus popaenella* 30-0060 (0373) Common  
TL 13-17 mm. FW is variably straw-colored to dark gray, brindled with blackish lines. Often has black wedges in inner AM and median areas bordering paler streak along inner margin. **HOSTS:** Roots of red clover. **RANGE:** Widespread west to OK, south to FL and TX.
- CRESSON'S GRASS-TUBEWORM**  
*Acrotaphus cressoni* 30-0069 (0347) Common  
TL 8-12 mm. Peppery brown FW has a marbled pattern of black-edged dark brown bands. Often has a black spot at midpoint of ST area. Inner margin is accented with tufts of raised scales. **HOSTS:** Grass. **RANGE:** Widespread west to OK, south to FL and TX. Local in northeast.
- PIGER GRASS-TUBEWORM**  
*Acrotaphus piger* 30-0071 (0371) Common  
TL 10-12 mm. Silvery gray FW is lightly brindled with dusky lines. Usually has a brown median band that narrows to a point toward inner margin. Thorax has a tall crest of hairlike scales. **HOSTS:** Black. **RANGE:** NC west to MS, south to FL and e. TX.
- ARCANE GRASS-TUBEWORM**  
*Acrotaphus arcanelle* 30-0080 (0340) Common  
TL 13-16 mm. FW is variably straw-colored to pale silvery gray, lightly brindled with dusky lines. Darker individuals have a blackish wedge in inner median area bordering irregular paler streak along inner margin. **HOSTS:** Unknown. **RANGE:** Widespread west to AR, south to FL and TX.
- PANAMA GRASS-TUBEWORM**  
*Acrotaphus panamae* 30-0085 (0368) Common  
TL 8-10 mm. Silvery gray FW is variably patterned with warm brown AM, median, and partial ST bands, creating a marbled pattern. Thorax has a dusky bifurcate crest. **HOSTS:** Unknown. **RANGE:** NC west to MS, south to FL and LA.
- HEPPNER'S GRASS-TUBEWORM**  
*Acrotaphus heppneri* 30-0098 (0335.1) Common  
TL 7-12 mm. Peppery brown FW is uniform apart from obscure darker blotches in central PM and inner median areas. **HOSTS:** Small-leaf climbing fern and sugarcane. **RANGE:** FL west to e. TX.

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### FUNGUS AND TUBE MOTHS



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## Most Common Moth Families

Family		Obsv #	Species #	% obsv
Noctuidae	Cutworm Moths and Allies Family	18,767	222	18%
Erebidae	Underwing, Tiger, Tussock, and Allied Moths Family	16,661	183	16%
Crambidae	Crambid Snout Moths Family	13,880	151	13%
Geometridae	Geometer Moths Family	9,842	138	9%
Sphingidae	Sphinx Moths Family	8,234	37	8%
Tortricidae	Tortricid Leafroller Moths Family	7,048	124	7%
Pyralidae	Pyralid Snout Moths Family	3,810	84	4%
Gelechiidae	Twirler Moths Family	2,510	89	2%
Saturniidae	Emperor, Royal, Moon, and Giant Silk Moths Family	1,991	18	2%
Gracillariidae	Leaf Blotch Miner Moths Family	598	32	1%
	All other Families	21,660	294	21%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>105,001</b>	<b>1,372</b>	

