

MOTHS

Nocturnal pollinators

After dark, moths are important for the night shift for **pollination**. Night-blooming plants with pale or white flowers heavy with fragrance and copious nectar attract these insects best. Although most are nocturnal, some are also active by day (diurnal).

Although adult moths live from a few weeks to a few months, depending on species, most overwinter as eggs, larvae or pupae, and so need to **remain hidden under leaves** or in other undisturbed places until their metamorphosis is complete.

Moths, in all stages of their life cycle, are a critical food source for many animals, from bats to bears to birds. Unfortunately, just like butterflies, moths are rapidly disappearing all over the world.



WHAT'S A MOTH?

Moths are in the Lepidoptera order along with butterflies, but are often thought to either be a pest or unimportant. In fact, with more than 90% of 'Leps' classified as moths, butterflies can be thought of as a group of moths specialized to fly during the day.

Clear Wing Moth
Photo by: Tiny Wings
Sphinx moth nectaring
on *Camassia leichlinii*
Photo: Klamath-
Siskiyou Native Seeds

Resources:
<https://www.fs.fed.us>
<https://>