

Buck Moth Caterpillar PEST ALERT!

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BONIDE®

The Buck Moth Caterpillar is getting ready to make an appearance in the Southeastern US any time now. This caterpillar not only eats leaves on trees and shrubs, but it is a member of a small group of caterpillars whose skin is covered with stinging spines which if they touch your skin can cause a nasty rash. The caterpillars often congregate in groups on tree branches and leaves, and will fall from the tree if disturbed. If they land on you, you may experience stinging and burning as their spines contact your skin.

Gardeners who are looking for natural controls for the stinging Buck Moth Caterpillar can find excellent control by using either Bonide Thuricide® (Bt) Liquid, or Bonide Captain Jack's Dead Bug Brew. Thuricide contains a bacterial control for caterpillars called bacillus thuringiensis. This is a fast acting natural insect control which only affects caterpillars. Captain Jack's products contain Spinosad® insecticide, a recently discovered insect killer which is derived from natural bacteria. Spinosad kills caterpillars quickly and is a natural product.

Adult Buck Moths do not harm plants. Adults are mainly black and have a wingspan of about 2-3 inches. A white band bisects the wings of Buck Moth adults. Stings from a Buck Moth larva can result in redness, swelling and severe itching. In some cases, multiple stings can be fatal in allergic individuals.

When applying chemical controls for Buck Moth Caterpillar control, be sure to follow the label directions including timing, temperature and wind conditions.

Buck Moth Facts:

- Skin is covered with stinging spines
- Feed on oak trees and can be present in large groups
- Sting causes itching, swelling and intense pain
- Pupae can live up to 2 years in the soil before emerging as adults
- Fall from trees easily – sting when they touch a person
- Easiest to control when caterpillars are small
- Adult moths do not feed or damage plants – do not have mouthparts



Best Solutions



Eight Brand Products

- Provides protection against insects for up to 4 weeks
- Contact and residual control
- Kills over 100 insect species
- Acts fast
- Water based formulations

Captain Jack's Deadbug Brew



- Natural caterpillar control
- Use effectively for many insects
- Contains Spinosad®

Thuricide® Bt



- Natural caterpillar control
- Will not harm beneficial insects
- Bacterial caterpillar killer
- Contains Bt Kurstaki