

## Silk Worm

### Classification

Kingdom : Animalia  
Phylum : Uniramia  
Class : Insecta  
Order : Lepidoptera  
Family : Bombycidae  
Genus : *Bombyx*  
Species : *Mori*



For further details, [Link](#)

### Characteristics :

- The silk moth is a species of moth originally native to China. It is notable for its production of silk by its larvae. Because of the value of silk, this species was domesticated thousands of years ago and no longer exists in the wild. Silk moths are now primarily bred in Asia, Australia, and Spain.
- Silkworms are the larvae of domestic silk moths (*Bombyx mori*) that have been domesticated for silk production and are completely dependent on humans for survival.
- **Life Stages:** Silkworms go through three main life stages: egg, larva (caterpillar), pupa (within a cocoon), and adult moth.
- **Diet:** The larvae are specialized herbivores, feeding exclusively on the leaves of the white mulberry tree, though some can eat Osage oranges or lettuce.
- **Adults:** Adult silkworm moths are weak fliers and do not eat, surviving only for a short period to mate and lay eggs.
- **Silk Production:** The larva spins a single, continuous strand of silk to form a protective cocoon, which is then harvested for commercial use.
- **Domestication:** *Bombyx mori* have been genetically altered through centuries of domestication and can no longer survive in nature.

## Habit

*Bombyx mori* or the Mulberry silkworm is completely domesticated organism and is never found wild. The female silk moths are larger than the males. The moth is quite robust and creamy-white in colour. The body is distinctly divisible into three regions, namely head, thorax and abdomen.

- **Larval Behaviour:** The larvae are voracious eaters, spending most of their time munching on mulberry leaves before they begin to spin their cocoons.
- **Pupa Behaviour:** The larva pupates within the cocoon it spins, a process where it transforms from a larva to an adult moth.
- **Adult Behaviour:** The adult moths' primary purpose is to mate. They are attracted to the pheromones released by females.

## Habitat

- **Artificial Environment:** As a domesticated insect, the silkworm's habitat is entirely artificial and dependent on humans.
- **Rearing Facilities:** Silkworms are raised on farms and in controlled environments where they are provided with mulberry leaves and have their developmental needs met.
- **Environmental Needs:** They require warm, humid conditions, with temperatures ideally between 25°C to 30°C (77°F to 86°F), to thrive.