

## Pest Profile



**Photo credit:** (Left) Becca MacDonald, Sault College, Bugwood.org; (Right) Lacy L. Hyche, Auburn University, Bugwood.org

**Common Name:** Eastern Tiger Swallowtail

**Scientific Name:** *Papilio glaucus*

**Order and Family:** Lepidoptera, Papilionidae

**Size and Appearance:**

	Length (mm)	Appearance
<b>Egg</b>		The eggs are green in color, laid singly, and globular.
<b>Larva</b>	65 mm	The young larvae of the Eastern tiger swallowtail are mottled black and white and resemble bird droppings. The mature caterpillar is humpbacked and green in body color with a large yellow, black-ringed eyespot with a blue or white “pupil” on the front of the hump. When disturbed, the larvae evert a pair of fleshy Y-shaped glands (osmeteria) that are bright orange in color.
<b>Adult</b>	Wingspan: 79-140 mm	The wings of the adult male and yellow-form female are yellow above and below with black “tiger stripes” and a spot of blue on the hindwings. The bottom side of the hindwings have bands of red and blue patches. In the black form, females show a hint of tiger stripes on the top portion of the wings with a bluish band and orange and white marks on the hindwings below. Both the male and female have a tail-like prolongation on the rear side of each hind wing. The antennae of the adults are thread-like.
<b>Pupa (if applicable)</b>		The pupa is obtect, meaning the appendages are firmly attached to the body, although these structures are somewhat visible along the pupal wall. The color of the pupae is brown.

**Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.):** The caterpillar has chewing mouthparts. The adults have a proboscis used for siphoning.

**Host/s:** The hosts to the caterpillar include wild cherry, sweetbay, basswood, tuliptree, birch, ash, alder, poplar, cottonwood, mountain ash, and willow.

**Description of Damage (larvae and adults):** The adults are commonly observed and are welcomed guests in gardens. The larvae are solitary feeders that feed on the foliage and spins a silken mat on leaves and curling them into a shelter.

#### **References:**

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