Pest Profile

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Common Name: Pandora pine moth

Scientific Name: *Coloradia pandora*

Order and Family: Lepidoptera, Saturniidae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg		• globular • bluish green to bluish gray
Larva/Nymph	6.35 – 25.4 mm	• have shiny black heads • black to brownish bodies • covered with short, dark hairs
Adult	25.0 – 40.0 mm 70.0 – 110 mm (wingspan)	• have dark brown-gray forewings suffused with light gray • discal spot is round and black • body is dark gray and fuzzy • the antennae are yellow in color
Pupa (if applicable)	25.0 – 35.0 mm	• dark purplish brown • tough shell

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Chewing (larvae)

Host plant/s: Western yellow pine, Jeffrey pine, Sugar pine, and Coulter pine.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults):
During outbreaks, growth loss and mortality can be significant. Pandora moth has a 2-year life cycle, with feeding and moth flight occurring in alternate years, so that most of the defoliation occurs every other year. Larvae feed primarily on older foliage, leaving trees with a tufted appearance. Heavy defoliation can predispose trees to attack by bark beetles, and repeated defoliation alone can kill pines, especially those stressed by other agents such as heavy dwarf mistletoe infection or drought.

References:

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