

MOTHS

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The Latin name for the Garden Tiger moth is *Arctia caja*.

This moth is brightly coloured, and is sometimes associated with butterflies. These colours, combined with a distinctive smell, warn predators such as birds that the moth is distasteful. Garden Tigers are generally common in open country, especially gardens, throughout the British Isles.

This moth has a wingspan of 5 to 7cm. Male and female are similar, though the male is slightly smaller, with a stout abdomen. Both have forewings that are boldly marked with brown and white, with the underwings being orange and black.

The distinctive caterpillars are reddish-brown and black with numerous long hairs. They feed on docks, stinging nettles and a wide range of herbaceous plants.