

Parasitoid wasp *Hyposoter dolosus* (Gravenhorst) (Hym.: Ichneumonidae) reared from post-hibernation larva of Garden Tiger moth *Arctia caja* (L.) (Lep.: Arctiidae)

A small post-hibernation larva of the Garden Tiger moth *Arctia caja* (L.) was collected on 6 April 2002 basking on a fragment of open coastal grassland by a fence on the strandline near Sunderland Point, Lancashire. The larva fed on Dandelion *Taraxacum officinale* agg. during the next few days and grew visibly larger, then ceased all movement. On 29 April 2002, an adult wasp emerged from the corpse of the larva, which had been kept in a plastic box indoors and had remained attached to the newspaper lining. There was no separate cocoon formed outside the host. Both wasp and host were photographed and sent via Mark Shaw to Dr Klaus Horstmann of the University of Wurzburg, Germany. He identified it as a male of the parasitoid *Hyposoter dolosus* (Campopleginae). Dr Shaw reports that he has at least two specimens of this species which, like me, he has reared from Garden Tiger on the Lancashire coast.

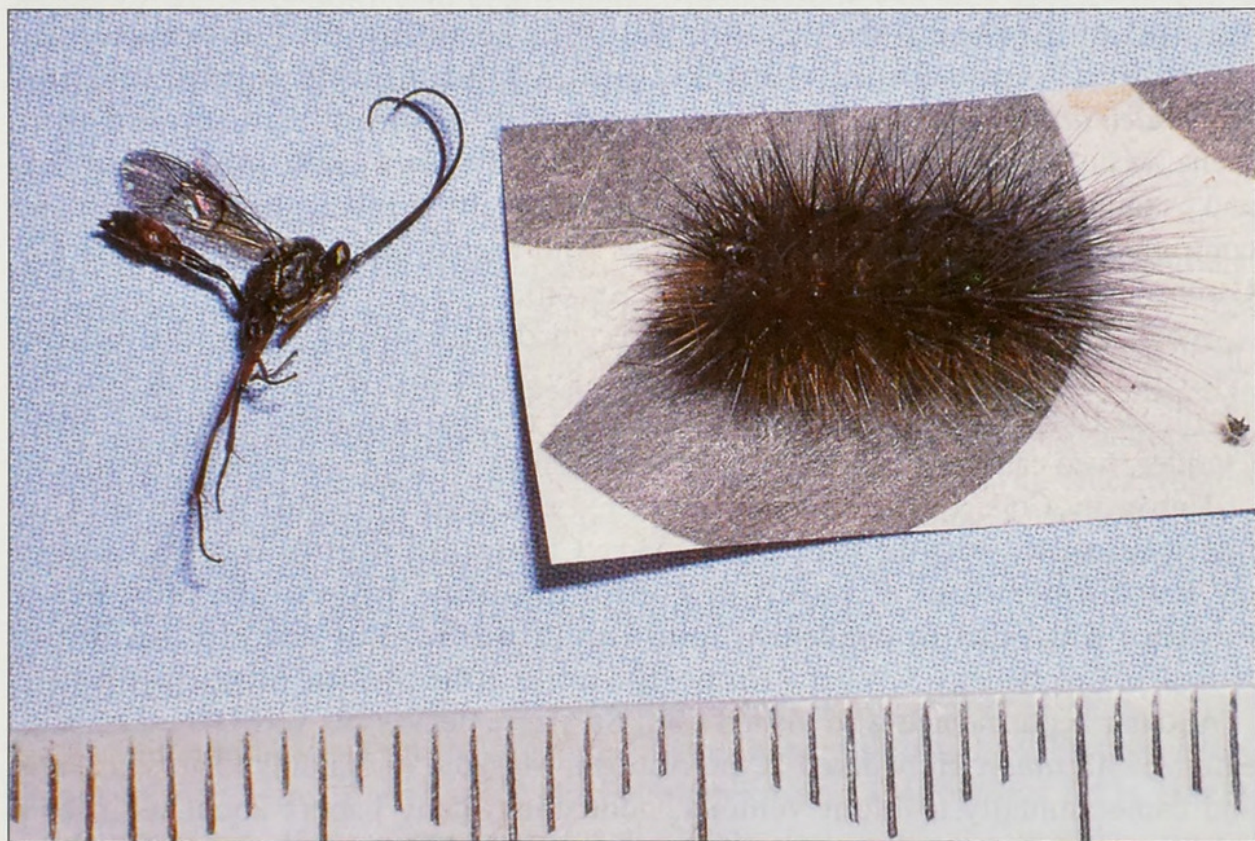


Plate K. *Hyposoter dolosus* ex *Arctia caja*.

I thank Klaus Horstmann and Mark Shaw for the determination of the parasitoid. The larva was collected during a joint field meeting of the Lancashire Moth Group, Butterfly Conservation and the British Entomological & Natural History, for which the author received financial support as part of Butterfly Conservation's "Action for Threatened Moths" project.— PAUL WARING, 1366 Lincoln Road, Werrington, Peterborough PE4 6LS.



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