

## Stinging Caterpillars

Some common stinging caterpillars are the saddleback, tussock moth, puss moth, hag moth, lo moth, isa moth, and spiny oak slug (Figures 34-40). All feed on the leaves of various trees and shrubs between March and September and are capable of causing severe reactions in certain people.

The caterpillars are equipped with stinging spines located over their bodies. Each spine is connected to a poison gland that injects venom when touched. Children should be taught not to handle caterpillars unless they are recognized as harmless species. Wearing long-sleeved shirts and long pants will prevent many brushes with these caterpillars while pruning trees and shrubbery or just taking a stroll through the woods.



Figure 34 - Saddleback caterpillar



Figure 35 - Tussock moth caterpillar



Figure 36 - Puss caterpillar



Figure 37 - Hag moth caterpillar



Figure 38 - lo moth caterpillar



Figure 39 - Isa moth caterpillar



Figure 40 - Spiny oak slug caterpillar