Spotlight on rearing

by

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**Automeris louisiana** Ferguson & Brou

The coastal endemic Louisiana saturnid species *Automeris louisiana* Ferguson & Brou (1981) is very easy to rear in desktop containers or sleeved on trees. The foodplants utilized included cherry (Prunus serotina), red maple, red oak, white oak, water oak, choke cherry, sweet gum, swamp gum. Others have reportedly reared them on hackberry and Johnson grass. Larvae exhibit green color forms. Adults are attracted to ultra violet light. *A. louisiana* is found in the treeless cordgrass (Spartina sp.) coastal marsh-lands from extreme southeastern Texas to extreme southwestern Mississippi.

![Images of *Automeris louisiana* and a natural foodplant](image_url)

**Fig. a.** adult male, **b.** adult female, **c.** mid-instar larva, **d.** mid-instar larva, **e.** late-instar mature larva, **f.** late-instar mature larva, **g.** newly emerged adult male, **h.** Michael Lefort holding mature *Spartina* plant, the natural foodplant of *A. louisiana*.

Literature cited
