



Common Name: Tiger Swallowtail

Scientific Name: *Papilio glaucus*

Development: Complete metamorphosis

Average Adult Length: 3 to 5 inch wingspan

Distribution: East of Rocky Mountains

Host Plants Used as Food: Nectar from many plants as adults and as caterpillars feed on tulip trees, magnolias, willows, etc.

ID feature: The males are yellow and large with black stripes. The females in this area will usually look similar but sometimes are black in color like the eastern populations.

Fun Fact: The caterpillars are brown and white early on and then will be green with dots to deter birds; this is called transformational mimicry.



Common Name: Goldenrod Gall Fly

Scientific Name: *Eurosta solidaginis*

Development: Complete metamorphosis

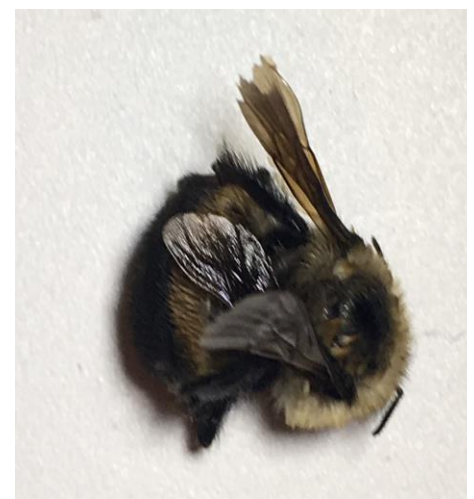
Average Adult Length: About 1/3 of an inch

Distribution: Midwest and more eastern North America

Host Plants Used as Food: Larvae feed on goldenrod tissue from within; eggs are deposited by female in spring into a goldenrod stem

ID feature: The galls made by the larvae are easier to find than the adult, especially in a grassland. Look for roundish bulb (see picture) in the middle of a live or dead goldenrod stem.

Fun Fact: The galls are attacked by parasitic wasps, downy woodpeckers, and black capped chickadees.



Common Name: Bumble Bee

Scientific Name: *Bombus* spp.

Development: Complete metamorphosis

Average Adult Length: About 1 inch for the bumblebees in this region

Distribution: North America, South America, Eurasia, and North Africa

Host Plants Used as Food: Nectar from many flowers (in the prairie dozens will be utilized) and as larvae pollen plus nectar are eaten

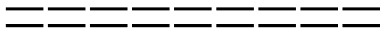
ID Feature: Bumble bees are stout and hairy with many hairs on the legs and thorax. Size is large compared to other bees; yellow with black in color as adults.

Fun Fact: Bumblebees live in colonies underground and the queen will secrete a pheromone that hinders females from becoming fertile until fall.



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Field Guide to

Insects of the Eastern Tallgrass Prairie



Common Name: Red Milkweed Beetle

Scientific Name: *Tetraopes tetraophthalmus*

Development: Complete metamorphosis

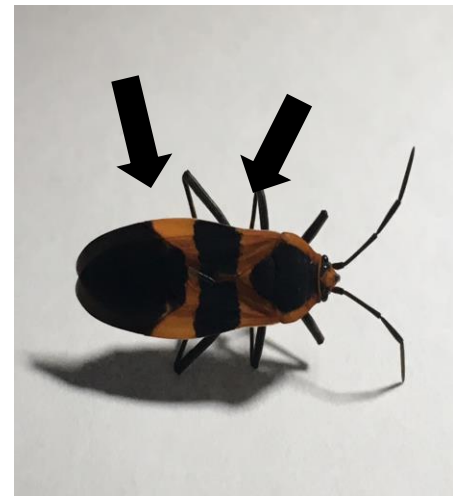
Average Adult Length: Half an inch

Distribution: central and eastern North America

Host Plants Used as Food: Larvae and adult consume common milkweed; the adults feed on foliage and other parts of the shoot while the larvae burrow into the roots

ID Feature: The beetle will be found mostly on milkweeds and is red with black dots plus long antennae.

Fun Fact: The compound eyes are divided by the antennae meaning it has four compound eyes which is rare for insects.



Common Name: Large Milkweed Bug

Scientific Name: *Oncopeltus fasciatus*

Development: Partial metamorphosis

Average Adult Length: Half an inch

Distribution: Found in eastern and some areas of central North America with some members reaching islands in the Gulf of Mexico

Host Plants Used as Food: Nymphs and adult feed on milkweeds and rarely dogbane

ID Feature: The black and orange adults appear similar to small milkweed bugs but have continuous orange on the dorsal side (see picture) unlike the small milkweed bugs.

Fun Fact: Small milkweed bugs have been observed rarely killing and consuming large milkweed bugs despite both being considered herbivores.

