

# Discover the Fauna of Our Campus

## Striped Hawk Moth (*Hyles livornica*)

Order: Lepidoptera

Family: Sphingidae

Genus: Hyles

Species: Striped Hawk Moth (*Hyles livornica*)



The striped hawk moth is a medium-sized but very elegant species of hawk moth. Its forewings are olive-brown with white veins and a distinct longitudinal stripe. The hindwings are pink with a black border around the edges. This moth can hover in the air like a hummingbird while using its long proboscis to feed on flower nectar. It is an extremely fast flyer and is capable of migrating over great distances.

They are mainly active at dusk and during the night, although they may sometimes also be seen during the daytime.

In Azerbaijan, they are widely distributed in steppes, fields, and gardens.

The caterpillars are colorful and mainly feed on plants such as sorrel and knotgrass. Their wingspan ranges between 60 and 80 millimeters. They strongly prefer warm climates.

Their population size may vary greatly from year to year. Their migration routes can extend from Africa all the way to Northern Europe. They are distinguished by their beautiful coloration and dynamic movements. These moths are active participants in pollination within natural ecosystems. They are easily attracted to sources of light. The pupal stage develops in the upper layer of the soil.