

The subspecies of
artace cribraria,
which ranges



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

The Venezuelan Poodle moth, also known as *A. cribraria*, is a kind of moth that lives in Venezuela. Said to be a hoax, this species was recently discovered/filmed in 2009 by Dr Arthur Anker of Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, who found this species in the Gran Sabana region of Venezuela. This moth species seemingly appears to be closely allied to the Muslim Moth, or *Diaphora mendica*. The Poodle moth corresponds to the family *Lasiocampidae*, and it's also plausible that it belongs to the genus *Artace*. Even though it's possible that it may be a subspecies of *Artace cribraria*, which ranges from North America all the way down to Argentina, it seems more probable that it may be a different species. There are between 10-15 South American species of the genus *Artace* that have been officially discovered so far. There can be three different reasons, it may range between the species of genus, it maybe a regional subspecies or even a completely new species all together. Dr.

Karl Shuker, who's a researcher took a liking in this strange species with fuzzy hair, bulging black beady eyes, and a strange brown antennae. Dr. Karl used his knowledge in zoology, cryptozoology, and science writing to publish the Poodle Moth on his blog among with even more spectacular finds he so happen come across. One of Shuker's fellow workers speculated that the Venezuelan poodle moth bears some slight similarities to *Diaphora mendica*, the muslin moth of the lepidopteran family *Arctiidae*. Although it does have some of the same similarities; fuzzy parts, its antennae, coloring, and front legs are much different. In addition, the muslin moth is common to the U.

K. and Russian Palearctic, they would never be as far south as Venezuela. It could be that the muslin moth and the Venezuelan poodle moth are related, especially with only 6, 000 of the estimated 11, 000 in the Arctiidae family. Shuker thinks a new species may have been discovered.