

Kawa Kawa and the Grey Evening Moth

What makes all the holes in the kawa kawa leaves?

It's the looper caterpillar. They also eat another tasty peppery shrub, the Horopito which has reddish grey leaves and grows on the bush edge. They also like Feijoa leaves. The caterpillars hide from predators in the daytime in the soil at the base of the trees and only come out at night.

When they are big and fat they turn into pupae and then hatch into Grey Evening Moths with a 40 - 50mm wing span.

