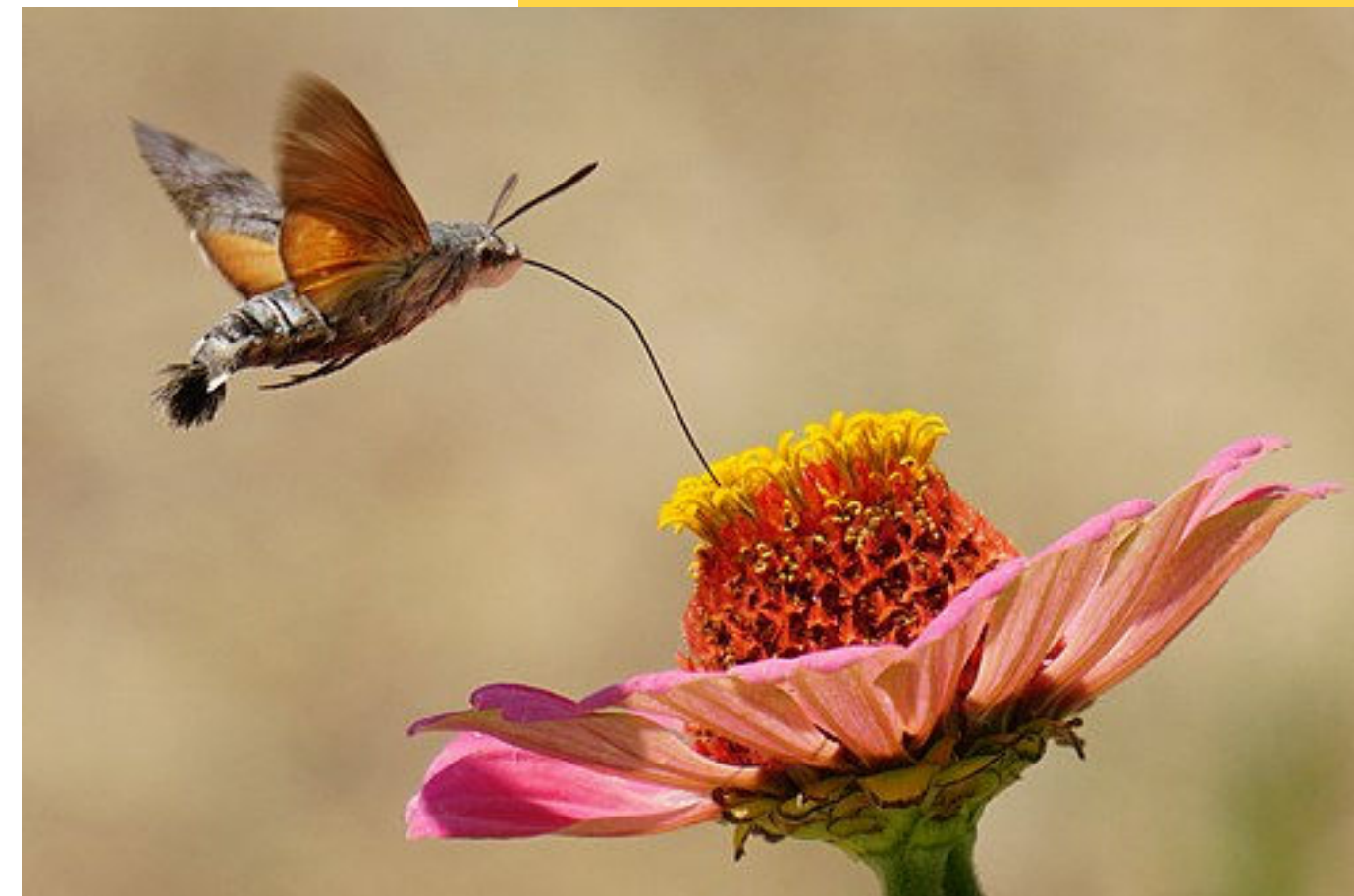


# Humming-bird hawk moth

**Latin name : *Macroglossum stellatarum***

**Size : from 5 to 8 cm**

The humming-bird hawk moth is a species of diurnal butterfly that has the particularity of hovering and flying backwards. Rarely landing, it uses its long proboscis to forage in flight, giving it a hummingbird-like appearance.



The humming-bird hawk moth can fly at speeds of up to 50 km/h, with an average speed of 40 km/h, making it one of the fastest butterflies. Seeing it is considered a good omen. It is said that a swarm of humming-bird hawk moth butterflies was seen crossing the English Channel in Normandy during the landings of the Second World War. The caterpillar of this butterfly is apple green and ends in an orange horn.