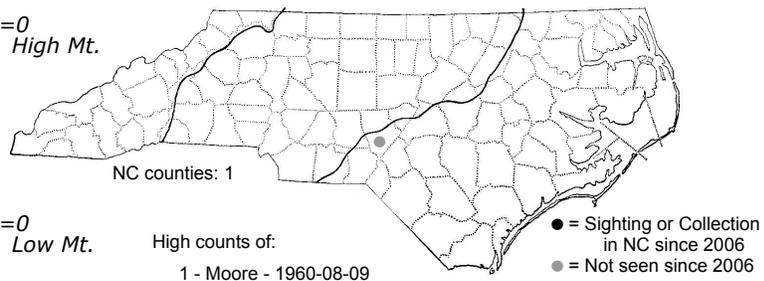
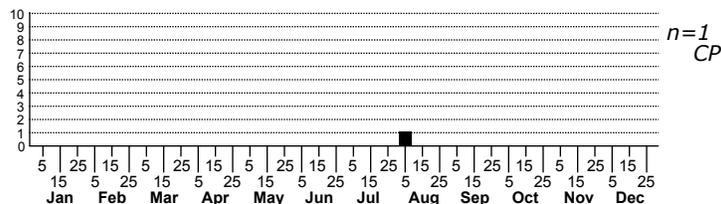


Aroga epigaeella None



Status		Rank	
NC	US	NC	Global



FAMILY: Gelechiidae SUBFAMILY: Gelechiinae TRIBE: Gelechiini
 TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:
 ONLINE PHOTOS:
 TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:
 TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The external coloration and patterning of *Aroga epigaeella* is essentially identical to that of *A. argutiola* and *A. trialbamaculella*, and all three of these species are best distinguished using dissected genitalia. The following description is based on the description of *A. argutiola* by Hodges (1974a) and should also apply to *A. epigaeella*. The maxillary palp is gray. The outer surface of the first segment and base of the second segment of the labial palp are gray, while the inner surface of the first and second segments are mainly white. The scale brush on the second segment is pale orange to red-orange, while the third segment is mainly dark gray with yellowish-white scales at the base, anterior margin, apex, and sometimes elsewhere. The frons is white with a row of gray-brown scales in front of the eye, and the vertex and occiput are gray. The antenna is dark gray. The dorsal surfaces of the thorax, tegula, and forewing are dark gray. There is a patch of white scales on the costa at three-fourths the wing length, and often one on the posterior margin at three-fourths the wing length. A few white scales are often present on the fold, just before and just beyond one-half the length of the fold. A few white scales are also present at two-thirds to three-fourths the length of the cell, and at the end of the cell. The fringe is mainly pale gray. The hindwing is mainly pale yellowish gray above, with yellow more intense on the outer third of the wing. The legs are mainly dark gray, with off-white to whitish markings.

DISTRIBUTION: *Aroga epigaeella* is found in eastern North America, but its distribution and range is poorly documented due to the need to examine the male genitalia for accurate identification. As of 2025, we have only one record for the state.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT:

FOOD: The larvae appear to use more than one genus of host plants, with the known hosts including Trailing Arbutus (*Epigaea repens*; Chambers, 1881) and blueberries (*Vaccinium* spp.). Our one record for this species was reared from a larva on blueberry. Reports of the species feeding on *Eriogonum* (Shropshire and Tallamy, 2025) are questionable and may reflect misidentified specimens.

OBSERVATION_METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS:

STATE PROTECTION: Has no legal protection, although permits are required to collect it on state parks and other public lands.

COMMENTS: