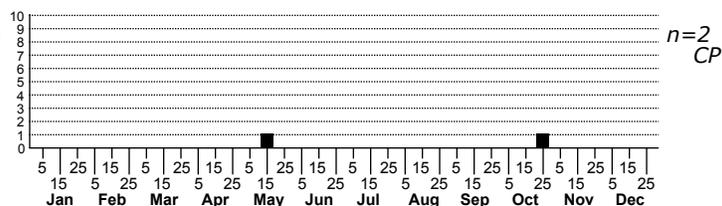
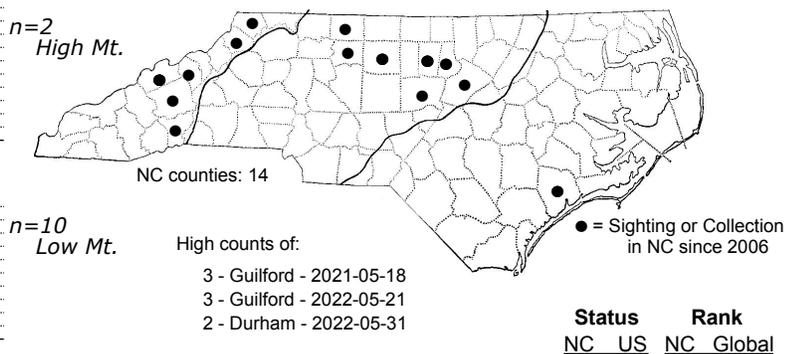
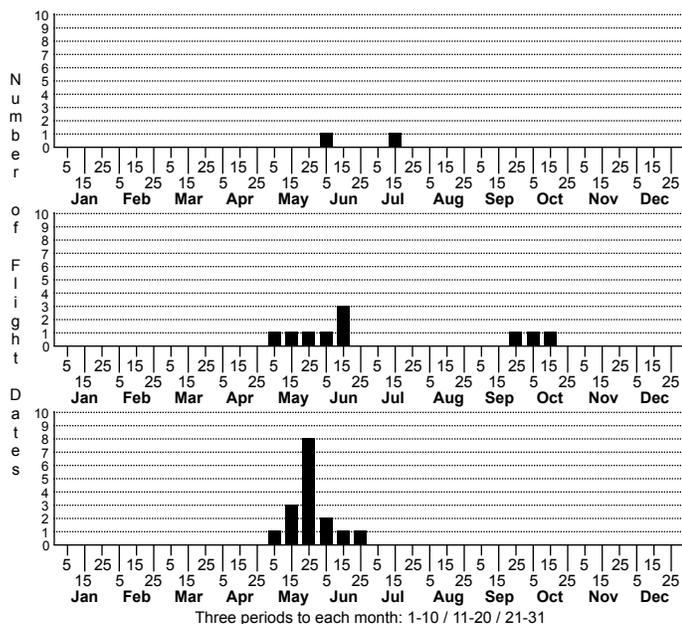


Argyresthia subreticulata Speckled *Argyresthia*



FAMILY: *Argyresthiidae* SUBFAMILY: TRIBE:
 TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Busck (1907a)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: *Argyresthia subreticulata* is a small moth that has white forewings with varying amounts of brown speckling that is reduce or absent on the basal fourth of the wing, and that develops a weakly reticulate pattern on the apical fifth of the wing. The following description is based in part on that of Busck (1907a). The labial palp is golden-white, and the head is silvery-white above, with a light brownish-tan stripe laterally that passes through the eye. The antenna is white with brown annulations, and the thorax is silvery-white. The ground color of the forewing is silvery-white and marked with brown speckling and fine, transverse striations that are reduce or absent on the basal fourth of the wing. These become more concentrated towards the apical third of the wing and often organized into a weakly reticulate pattern on the apical fifth of the wing. The light brownish-tan stripe that passes through the eye continues posteriorly along the costa, but transitions to being darker brown near the wing base. It continues along the costa as a well-defined stripe to around two-thirds the wing length, then tends to break up and become part of the weakly reticulate pattern on the apical fifth of the wing. The outer fringe is golden-brown with a darker sub-basal band. The hindwing and fringe varies from smoky-brown to light-gray, and the outer portions of the legs are white with varying amounts of brownish-tan to brown dusting.

DISTRIBUTION: *Argyresthia subreticulata* is found in eastern North America where it occurs in southern Ontario and Quebec, and broadly throughout much of the US. The range in the US extends from Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York southwestward to North Carolina, northwestern South Carolina, northern Georgia and northern Alabama, and westward to eastern Texas, eastern Oklahoma, Missouri, Illinois and southern Minnesota. This species is uncommon or missing from the southeastern Coastal Plain and relatively uncommon west of the Appalachian region. As of 2025, our records are all from the Blue Ridge and Piedmont, except for one site record from the lower Coastal Plain.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been found from April through October in different areas of the range, with a few late-season records from November and December in Alabama and Florida. As of 2025, our records range from early-May to late-October. Some local populations in North Carolina appear to be bivoltine, with the primary flight occurring in May and June, and a smaller flight in September and October.

HABITAT: Local populations are generally associated with wet to mesic deciduous hardwoods.

FOOD: The larval host plants are poorly documented, with Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*) noted by Forbes (1923) as being a host. Other accounts have often cited 'maples' as being hosts, but we are unaware of any records that document larvae using maple species other than Red Maple. As of 2025, we do not have any feeding records in North Carolina.

OBSERVATION_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR SNR [S4S5]

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

COMMENTS: This species is uncommon but regularly encountered in deciduous forest habitats in the Blue Ridge and Piedmont.