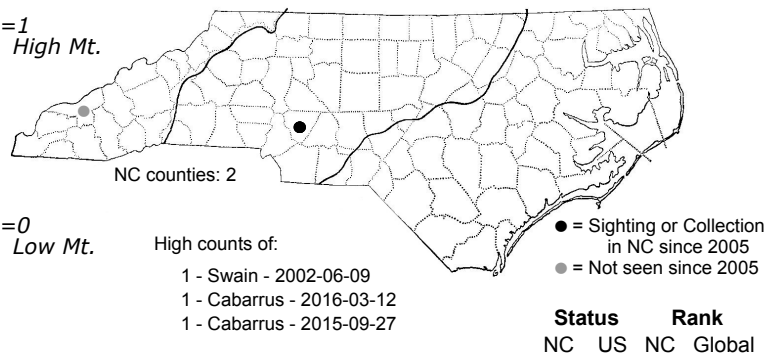
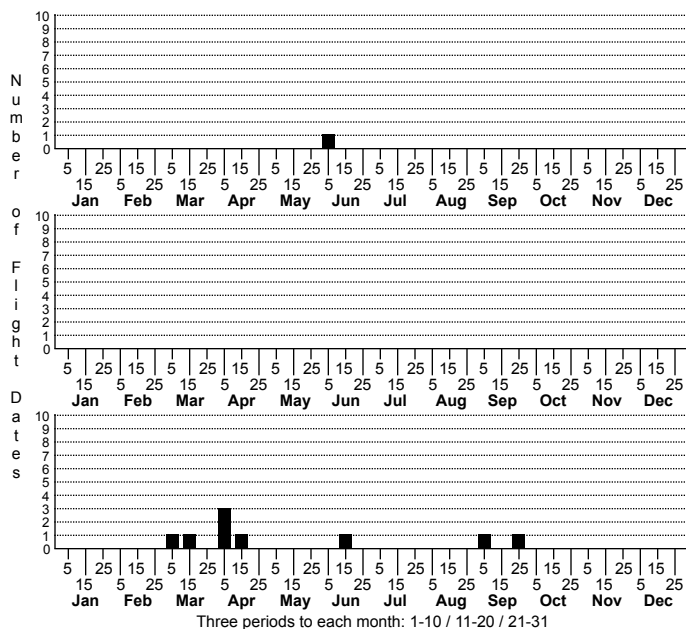


Argyrotaenia floridana Florida Leafroller Moth



FAMILY: Tortricidae SUBFAMILY: Tortricinae TRIBE: Archipini

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: The genus *Argyrotaenia* contains approximately 100 described species, with most occurring in Nearctic and Neotropical regions. Thirty-six species are currently recognized in North America.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Obratzsov (1961)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The following description is based in part on the original description by Obratzsov (1961). The antenna is dark brown with broad, whitish annulations. The labial palp is chestnut-brown on the outside, while the head is chestnut-brown with a mix of ochereous scales behind the eyes. The thorax and tegulae are chestnut-brown and mottled with ochereous, and the posterior thoracic crest is orange-brown.

The ground of the forewing is grayish white and shining with varying levels of darker dusting. The forewing has several darker marks that overlay the ground. The most conspicuous is a broad chestnut-brown, oblique, median fascia that begins near the middle of costa and extends to the dorsal margin just before the tornus. The fascia has a tooth about a third of the way from the costa that projects from the anterior margin inward (in the female, this may completely cut the fascia into two parts). Anterior to the median fascia is a basal area that contains varying levels of irregular dark brown markings that are intermixed with lighter areas. This region occupies about one-fourth of the basal portion of the wing, with the posterior margin often defined by a narrow, irregular dark line or narrow fascia that is often broken or incomplete, and that abuts the lighter interfacial ground color.

Beyond the median fascia is a large, roughly triangular-shaped dark brown costal spot that is about midway between the median fascia and the wing apex. Just dorsal to this is another large, dark brown spot that extends nearly to the tornus and is occasionally fused or connected by a narrow neck with the costal spot. A somewhat broad terminal band is present at the wing tip that is well developed on the apical half, but fades and disappears before reaching the tornus. A small costal spot is usually present between the triangular costal patch and the terminal band. The cilia are pale yellowish brown with a tendency to become whitish towards the tornus. The hindwing is pale brownish ochereous and often somewhat lighter basally. The cilia on the hindwing are yellowish white with a gray basal line.

This species is most easily confused with *A. velutinana*. The latter has a dorsal, basal patch on the forewing with a prominent tooth that projects posteriorly (best seen when a resting individual is viewed from above). According to Obratzsov (1961), the forewing markings are also more sharply outlined in *A. floridana* and the forewing ground has a shining gloss. In addition, the hindwing is paler. According to Obratzsov (1961), *A. floridana* differs from *A. tabulana* by having the forewing markings chestnut-brown and the hindwing much paler.

DISTRIBUTION: The range is centered on the southeastern US. Moth Photographers Group shows the ranging extends southward from New Jersey to Florida and westward to western Kentucky, Arkansas, Louisiana, and eastern Texas. However, many of these records have not been authenticated and much work is needed to delineate the true range of this species. As of 2022, we have only two records for North Carolina.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Populations in Florida and other southern localities are active year-round and presumably have multiple broods. Those farther north fly mostly from March through September.

HABITAT: The habitat requirements for this species are poorly documented.

FOOD: The larval hosts are undocumented (Brown et al., 2008).

OBSERVATION_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

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: We currently have insufficient information on the distribution and abundance of this species to assess its conservation status.