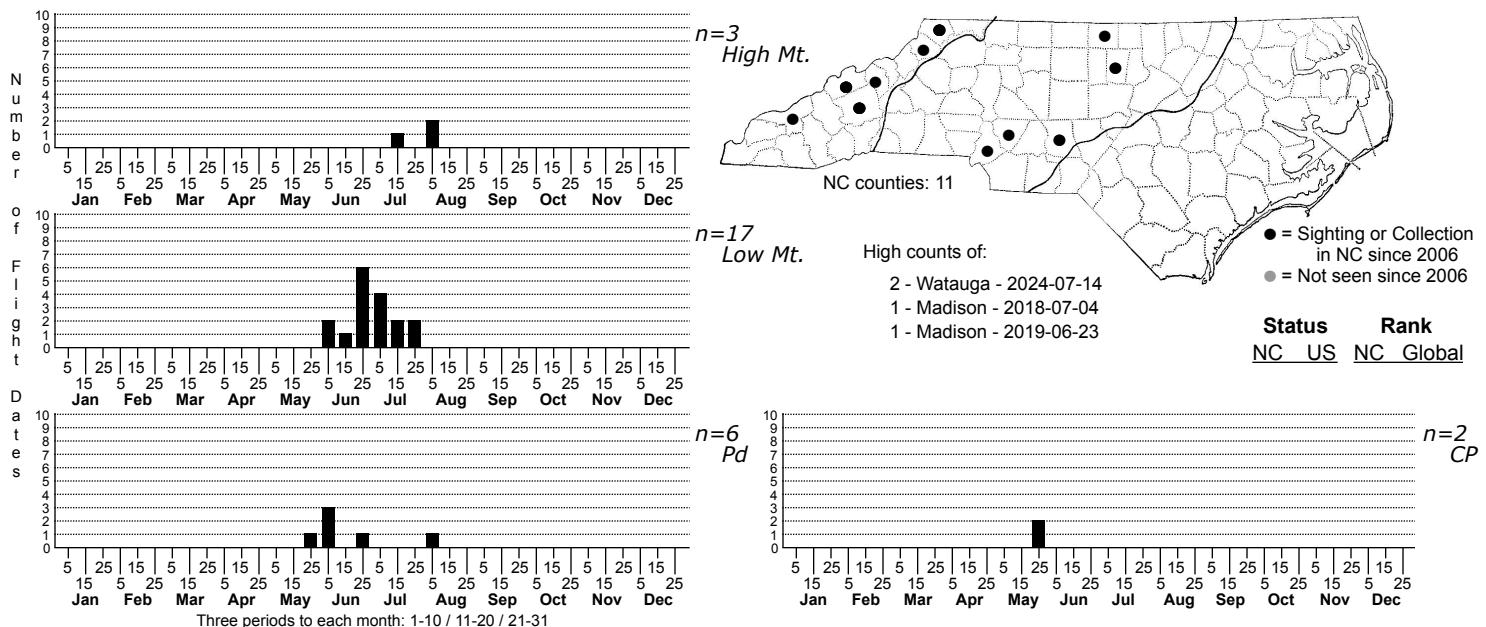


Argyrotaenia juglandana Hickory Leafroller Moth



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: Fernald (1879)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: This is one of our more distinctive *Argyrotaenia*. The head, thorax, and ground color of the forewing varies from reddish brown to dark brown, and small pale to whitish scale patches are present at the base of each wing and the adjoining tip of the posterior end of the thorax that form a conspicuous light spot when the wings are held together at rest. The forewing has two oblique, dark, narrow bands. The first begins at about the basal third of the costa and extends obliquely across to the dorsal margin, while the second begins just beyond the middle of the costa and parallels the first. Both bands tend to be slightly wider on the costal and dorsal ends (Fernald, 1879). Scattered patches of straw-colored scales occur throughout the forewing that are most prominent on the males. These sometimes produce a reticulated pattern and tend to be concentrated along the margins of the two oblique bands. The base of the fringe and adjoining areas of the subapical region tend to be concolorous with the oblique bands and washed with darker pigmentation. The hindwing and fringe are both fuscous. *Argyrotaenia quercifoliana* and *Adoxophyes negundana* might be confused with this species, but they have a well-developed reticulate pattern, more complex banding patterns, and lack the pale spot near the posterior margin of the thorax.

DISTRIBUTION: *Argyrotaenia juglandana* occurs throughout much of the Eastern Deciduous Forest from Vermont, New Hampshire, and adjoining areas of extreme southern Canada westward to Wisconsin. From there the range extends broadly southward to Arkansas, extreme eastern Texas, Louisiana, and Florida. Populations appear to be absent from many areas of the southeastern Coastal Plain despite the presence of host trees in the region. As of 2023, our records for North Carolina are confined to the Blue Ridge and Piedmont.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been documented in eastern North America from April through September, with most records occurring from May-July. As of 2022 our records extend from late May through mid-July.

HABITAT: Local populations are generally associated with hardwood forests, particularly where hickories and walnuts are well represented.

FOOD: Larvae feed mainly on hickories and walnuts, including Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*), Bitternut Hickory (*Carya cordiformis*) and Shagbark Hickory (*C. ovata*) (Fernald, 1879; Kearnott, 1907b; Forbes, 1923; Craighead et al., 1950; Freeman, 1958; Schaffner, 1959; Baker, 1972; Heppner 1974; Godfrey et al., 1987; Lam et al. 2011). They appear to rarely use other hosts such as species of *Corylus*, *Prunus*, and *Viburnum* (Brown et al., 2008).

OBSERVATION METHODS: The adults occasionally appear at lights during the early summer months. The larvae have rarely been reported and more information is needed on host use and the larval ecology.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR S3S4

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

COMMENTS: As of 2023 we have only 15 site records for this species which suggests that it is uncommon, although widely distributed in the mountains and Piedmont.