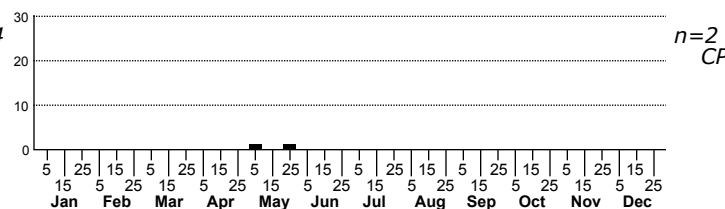
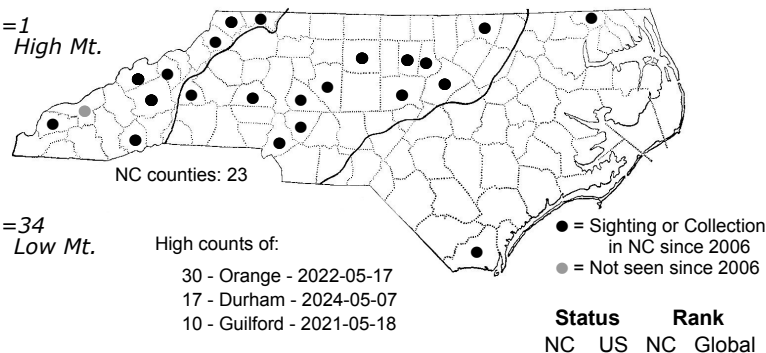
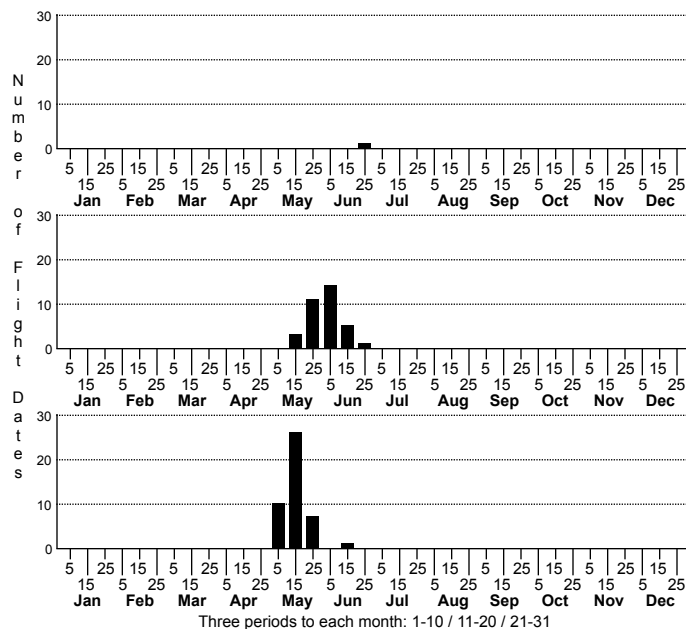


# Argyrotaenia alisellana White-spotted Leafroller Moth



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: Covell (1984); Beadle and Leckie (2012)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: This is a boldly marked *Argyrotaenia* that is difficult to confuse with any other species. The palps, head, and thorax are mostly white and the antenna amber-colored. The forewing has a whitish ground color that is overlain with a large reddish-brown blotch and radiating extensions that cover most of the wing. The main blotch has two primary extensions that extend to the costa as thick bars. They meet the costa at around one-fourth and three-fourth to create a semicircular white costal patch at around one-half. Thinner lines extend forward towards the wing base and rearward to the subapical region, where the latter produce an anastomosing pattern that creates two large, whitish ovals in the subterminal region. The hindwing is white, as is the fringe on the forewing.

DISTRIBUTION: *Argyrotaenia alisellana* is an oak specialist and is broadly distributed across eastern North America in areas where hardwood forests and oaks prevail. The range includes portions of southern Canada (Quebec; Ontario; Manitoba) and much of the eastern US from Maine westward to Minnesota and southward to eastern Texas. From there the range extends eastward through the Gulf States to northern Florida. Populations are scarce in many areas of the Coastal Plain where pines predominate. This species occurs in all three physiographic provinces in North Carolina, but is far less common in the Coastal Plain relative to the Piedmont and Blue Ridge.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been observed from April-October in different areas of the range, with a strong seasonal peak in May and June. Local populations in North Carolina are univoltine, with the adults flying from early May through mid-June.

HABITAT: Local populations are associated with hardwood or mixed hardwood forests where oaks are well-represented. They are also commonly found in semi-wooded residential settings where oaks are present.

FOOD: The larvae appear to specialize on oaks (Freeman, 1958; Prentice, 1966; Covell, 1984; Brown et al., 2008; Robinson et al., 2010; Lam et al., 2011; Marquis et al., 2019). The reported hosts include White Oak (*Quercus alba*), Scarlet Oak (*Q. coccinea*), Bur Oak (*Q. macrocarpa*), Northern Red Oak (*Q. rubra*) and Black Oak (*Q. velutina*). In North Carolina, larvae have been observed feeding on the non-native Bur Oak, but likely use various species of native oaks as their primary hosts.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: Almost all of our observations are based on adults that are attracted to lights. Observations on larval host use are needed for North Carolina populations.

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: