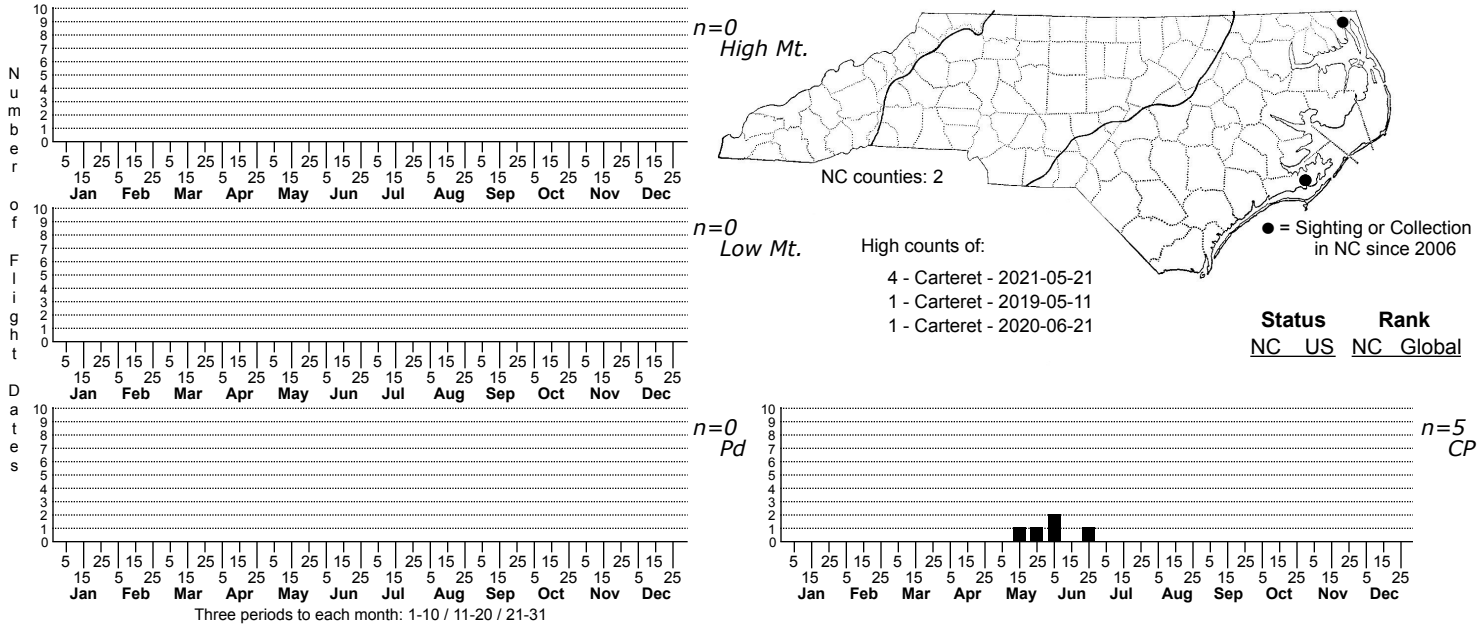
Argyrotaenia ivana Ivana Leafroller Moth



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 (1901)
TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: This species is sexually dimorphic and poorly described, with the original description based on a single male in the U.S. National Museum by Fernald (1901). In the male, the head, thorax, and ground color of the forewing are a dingy pale brown. The ground color of the forewing is overlain with several darker marks, the first being an often irregularly shaped dark costal blotch near the base of the wing that in some instances can extend to the middle of the wing or beyond. The most conspicuous mark is a wide, oblique, dark band at about one-third that extends about two-thirds of the way across the wing. This is followed by a dark subapical, triangular, costal patch at about three-fourths. A smaller dark irregular spot is usually present just beyond the tip of the costal patch and near the middle of the wing. The fringe is concolorous with the ground color of the wing, and the hindwing varies from light gray to light brown. The female is generally similar, but lacks both the basal blotch and the dark irregular spot that is found beyond the tip of the triangular costal patch.

DISTRIBUTION: Argyrotaenia ivana occurs statewide in Florida. Elsewhere, it occurs in coastal areas from eastern Texas eastward to South Carolina, then northward to as far as Rhode Island.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Adults have been observed throughout the year in Florida and from May-November from South Carolina northward. As of 2022, our limited records are all from May and June.

HABITAT: Over its range, this species occurs in sandy, xeric sites to coastal wetlands. Our small number of records all come from sites within or close to brackish marshes.

FOOD: Bigleaf Marsh-elder (Iva frutescens) is thought to be an important natural host, and fits with the tidewater locations where this species has been found in North Carolina. However, Heppner (2003) and Heppner and Habeck (1976) reported numerous other taxa, most of which are crop species or are otherwise not native in our region. These include Celery (Apium graveolens var. dulce), a columbine (Aquilegia sp.), an Asparagus sp., a hawthorn (Crataegus sp.), grapefruit (Citrus paradiisi), oranges (C. sinensis), a geranium (Geranium sp.), Fragrant Rabbit-tobacco (Gnaphalium obtusifolium), Parrot-feather (Myriophyllum aquaticum), Dense-flower Smartweed (Persicaria densiflora), Dotted Smartweed (P. punctata), a rose (Rosa sp.), a willow (Salix sp.), and a goldenrod (Solidago sp.). The larvae can become pests in citrus groves in Florida where they sometimes disfigure the fruits (Bullock et al., 1997).

OBSERVATION_METHODS: We have only a few records and all are based on adults that were attracted to lights. Detailed information is needed on host use in North Carolina and elsewhere.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR S2S3

STATE PROTECTION:

COMMENTS: This species appears to be uncommon to rare in North Carolina and generally restricted to the tidewater region of the state.