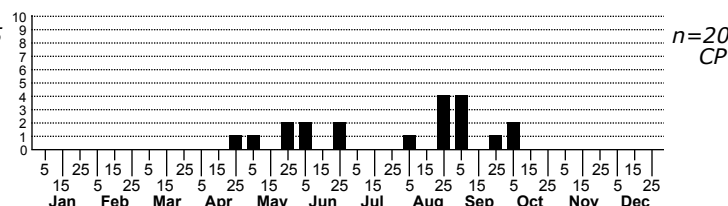
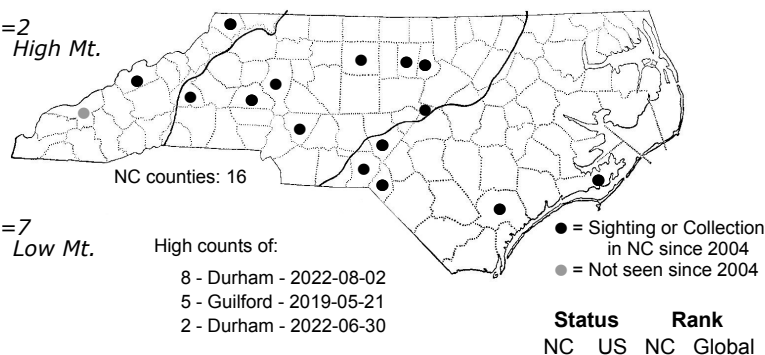
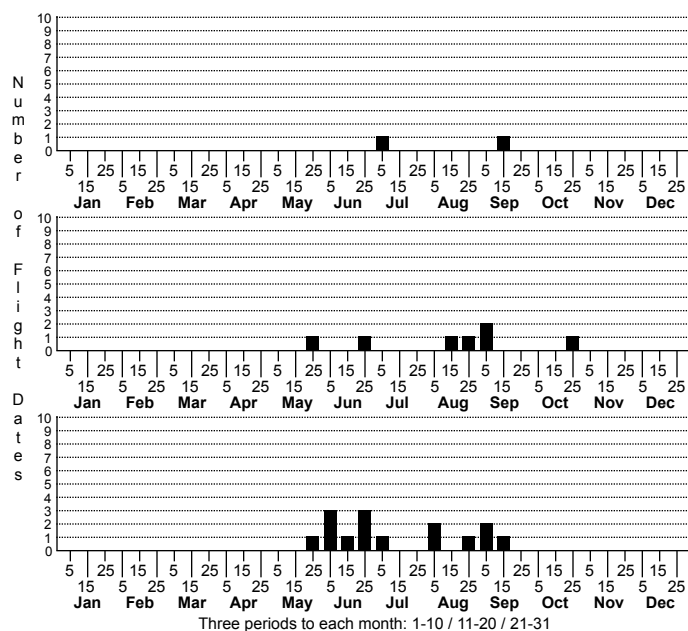


# Choristoneura parallela Parallel-banded Leafroller Moth



FAMILY: Tortricidae SUBFAMILY: Tortricinae TRIBE: Archipini  
TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Covell (1984)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1923)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The following description is based in part on that of Forbes (1923). The head, palps, antennae, and thorax vary from yellowish-brown to reddish-brown. The forewing ground also varies from yellowish-brown to reddish-brown and is overlain by numerous dark brown, irregular, reticulations that run nearly perpendicular to the inner margin. The ground is overlain with three darker bands or patches that are most commonly brown or reddish-brown. The first is a basal patch on the basal fourth that can vary from being obscure and nearly concolorous with the ground (more typical of males), or conspicuous and darker than the ground (more typical of females). The posterior edge of the patch is defined by a posteriorly oblique, irregular, thin line that runs from the costa to the inner margin. The middle of the wing has a more conspicuous posteriorly oblique band that extends from the costa near the middle to the inner margin at about two-thirds. In some specimens the band fades near the middle, but in others it is fully formed. The last mark is a roughly triangular-shaped patch that extends from the costa at around two-thirds to near the tornus. A semi-oval costal spot is often evident within it at around three-fourths. The anterior edge of the triangular mark is delineated by the thin, dark line that parallels a similar line on the anterior edge of the median band. The hindwing varies from pale yellowish brown to light brown, with a more or less concolorous fringe.

The males lack a costal fold on the forewing, which is helpful in distinguishing them from certain closely related forms (Forbes, 1923). Unlike males of *C. rosaceana*, the costal margin in male *C. parallela* is broadly arched at the base but straight rather than sinuous towards the apex. Beyond the initial curvature, the costal and inner margins run parallel (Robinson, 1869). According to Jason Dombroskie (see BugGuide), females have a straight to subtly undulating costal margin, while the margin in *C. rosaceana* is distinctly undulating. Males of *C. rosaceana* also have a distinct blackish mark on the posterior edge of the thorax that is not present in *C. parallela*.

DISTRIBUTION: *Choristoneura parallela* is broadly distributed across the eastern US and is also found in southern Ontario. In the US the range extends from Maine southward to southern Florida and westward to Mississippi, western Tennessee, Missouri, Iowa, and southern Michigan. This species occurs statewide in North Carolina.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults fly from March through September in Florida and Georgia, and typically from May through September elsewhere. As of 2022, our records extend from early May through late-October, with local populations appearing to have two broods per year.

HABITAT: Our records include northern hardwood forests, sandhill streamheads, Longleaf Pine savannas, and barrier islands.

FOOD: The larvae are polyphagous and feed on deciduous trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants (Freeman, 1958; Heppner, 2007; MacKay (1962); Sandberg and Passoa, 1989; Stuart and Polavarapu, 1998; Robinson et al., 2010). This species is an occasional pest on strawberries, apples, and roses, and can be an important pest on commercially grown cranberries (*Vaccinium macrocarpon*). The other known hosts include Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*), Groundsel-tree (*Baccharis halimifolia*), Leatherleaf (*Chamaedaphne calyculata*), citrus species, gardenias, Common St. John's-wort, (*Hypericum perforatum*), Sheep Laurel (*Kalmia angustifolia*), Common Waxmyrtle (*Morella cerifera*), Parrot-feather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*), beans (*Phaseolus*), Prairie Willow (*Salix humilis*), Purple Pitcher Plant (*Sarracenia purpurea*), greenbriers (*Smilax*) and goldenrods (*Solidago*).

OBSERVATION\_METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR S4S5

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

COMMENTS: