

FAMILY: Tortricidae SUBFAMILY: Tortricinae TRIBE: Archipini TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS: <i>Archips</i> is a large genus with species occurring worldwide. Most are found in Holarctic and temperate regions and they are well-represented in the Old World. North America has 26 species, including a few that are introduced.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: ONLINE PHOTOS: TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Freeman (1958) TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The following is based in part on the descriptions by Fernald (1892) and Freeman (1958). The head, palps, and antennae are light yellowish to reddish tan. The thorax is similar, but usually has a rusty brown to cinnamon-brown patch on the posterior margin. The ground color of the forewing is yellowish to reddish tan on the basal third and darker and rosy purplish for the remainder of the wing, except for the subterminal region that is more often dull white. The ground is overlain with several darker rusty brown to cinnamon-brown patches that have the margins lined with whitish scales. The first is a posteriorly oblique bar that extends from the inner margin near the wing base to near the middle. Just beyond the terminus of this in the middle of the wing are two longitudinal, elongated, oval bars that are often connected at the base and terminate at around three-fourths the wing length. A semioval costal patch is present at three-fourths that extends only a sort distance inward. The outer part of the wing is dull white and is crossed by a smoky-brown to blackish, curved band (sometimes ill-defined) that extends from the costal patch to the anal angle. The fringe is yellowish brown and the outer edge of the wing is marked with black reticulations that are most prominent near the apex. The hindwing is pale brown in the posterior two-thirds, but phases to being whitish on the anterior third, while the fringe is whitish with a dark basal line. The costa is recurved along the apical third, particularly on the females, and the males have a prominent costal fold on the basal one-third that is cinnamon-colored.

The male markings of $\langle i \rangle A$. grisea $\langle i \rangle$ are similar to those of $\langle i \rangle A$. magnoliana $\langle i \rangle$, but the forewing is grayish overall versus being reddish tan to reddish brown in $\langle i \rangle A$. magnoliana $\langle i \rangle$. The males of both species have a prominent costal fold along the basal third of the wing, with that of $\langle i \rangle A$. magnoliana $\langle i \rangle$ being salmon-colored versus dull gray in $\langle i \rangle A$. grisea $\langle i \rangle$. In addition, $\langle i \rangle A$. magnoliana $\langle i \rangle$ has a well-defined black, triangular patch at the apex that is missing or poorly defined in $\langle i \rangle A$. grisea $\langle i \rangle$

DISTRIBUTION: <i>Archips magnoliana</i> is restricted to the eastern US where the range extends from southern New York and Pennsylvania southwestward through the Appalachian region of West Virginia, Virginia, Tennessee, and North Carolina, then southwestward to Louisiana, Mississippi, and northern Alabama. This species is also found along Atlantic coastal regions from Georgia northward to Maryland. As of 2023, we have records from both the Blue Ridge and from habitats along the coast.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been observed from May through September in different areas of the range, with a seasonal peak typically from May through July. As of 2023, our records are from May on the coast, and from early June to early July in the Blue Ridge.

HABITAT: This species is found in hardwood or mixed hardwood-conifer forests with native magnolias, particularly <i>M. acuminata</i>. It generally prefers rich, mesic forests in the mountains and coastal bottomlands and pocosins along the coast.

FOOD: The larvae appear to be specialists on magnolias (Brown et al., 2008; Robinson et al., 2010). Cucumber Tree (<i>M. acuminata</i>) is the only documented host (Fernald, 1892; Forbes, 1923), but other species such as Sweetbay Magnolia (<i>M. virginiana</i>) are likely used along the coast since <i>M. acuminata</i> does not occur there. We do not have any feeding records in North Carolina.

OBSERVATION_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

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: This species appears to be uncommon in the state, with no evidence of marked population declines. March 2025 The Moths of North Carolina - Early Draft