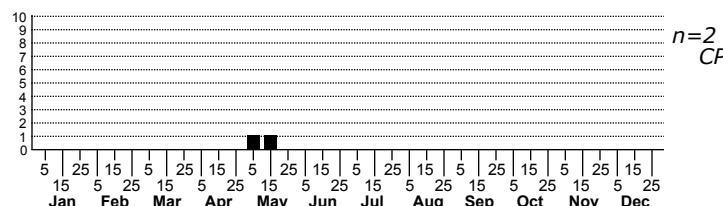
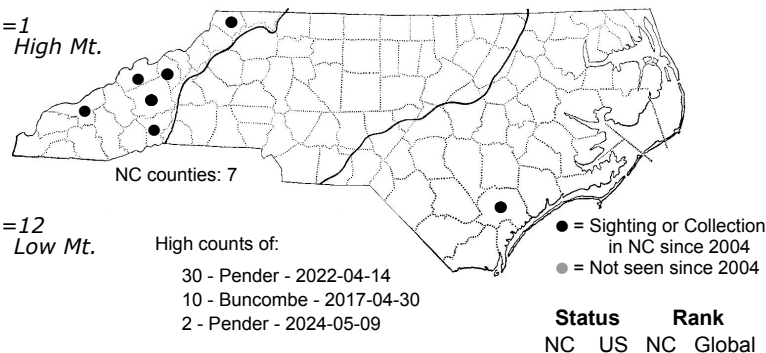
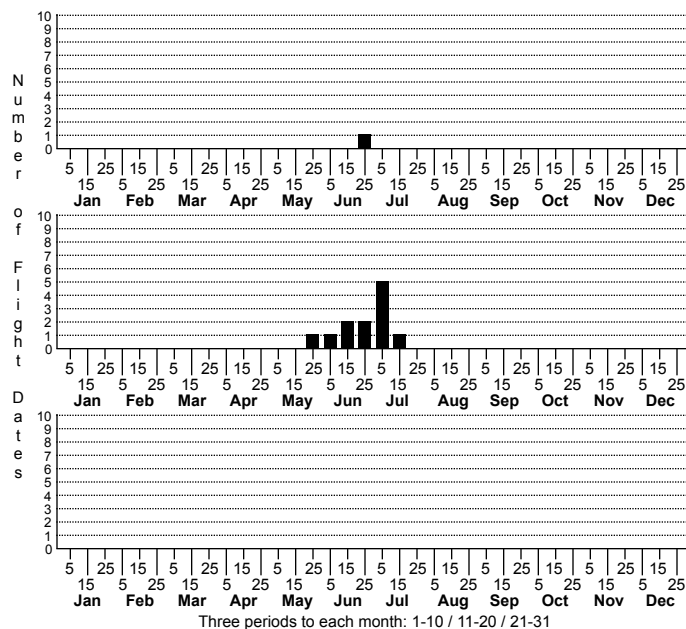


# Archips rileyana Southern Ugly-nest Caterpillar Moth



FAMILY: Tortricidae SUBFAMILY: Tortricinae TRIBE: Archipini

TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS: *Archips* 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: Tyler (2018)

ID COMMENTS: The following is based primarily on the descriptions by Freeman (1958). The head, palps, antenna, thorax and ground color of the forewing are light yellowish-brown. The ground color of the forewing is overlain with several small dark spots that are somewhat variable. The most prominent are a costal spot near the middle and a second one at around four-fifths. The basal region usually has one or two small circular spots, and there are often two small spots in the subdorsal region of the middle of the wing. Just below the outer margin there is a row of small spots that begin below the costa and gently curve towards the tornus. They terminate before reaching the tornus. *Archips cerasivorana* is similar but typically has larger spots that are more diffuse, and lacks the row of small spots below the outer margin.

DISTRIBUTION: *Archips rileyana* is found primarily in the southeastern US, with the range extending from central Texas, central Oklahoma, and Kansas eastward to Ohio, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, Alabama, and the Florida Panhandle. As of 2023, we have numerous records from the Blue Ridge, and two from the Coastal Plain in Pender County.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been observed from March through July in different areas of the range, with most records from May through July. As of 2023, our records extend from mid-May to mid-July.

HABITAT:

FOOD: The larvae are polyphagous and feed on several taxonomically diverse hosts, with buckeyes (*Aesculus*) appearing to be one of the most important host taxa (Kearfott, 1907; Forbes, 1923; Freeman, 1958; Heppner, 2007). The reported hosts include Yellow Buckeye (*A. flava*), Ohio Buckeye (*A. glabra*), Horse Chestnut (*A. hippocastanum*), Red Buckeye (*A. pavia*), hickories (*Carya*), Chestnuts (*Castanea*), dogwoods (*Cornus*), walnuts (*Juglans*), cherries (*Prunus*), oaks (*Quercus*), coralberries (*Symphoricarpos*), and ironweeds (*Vernonia*). Kearfott (1907) reported them feeding on Horse Chestnut near Black Mountain, North Carolina.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights and the bulky nests can be found on buckeyes and other hosts.

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: Populations appear to be somewhat localized, with adults often locally common.