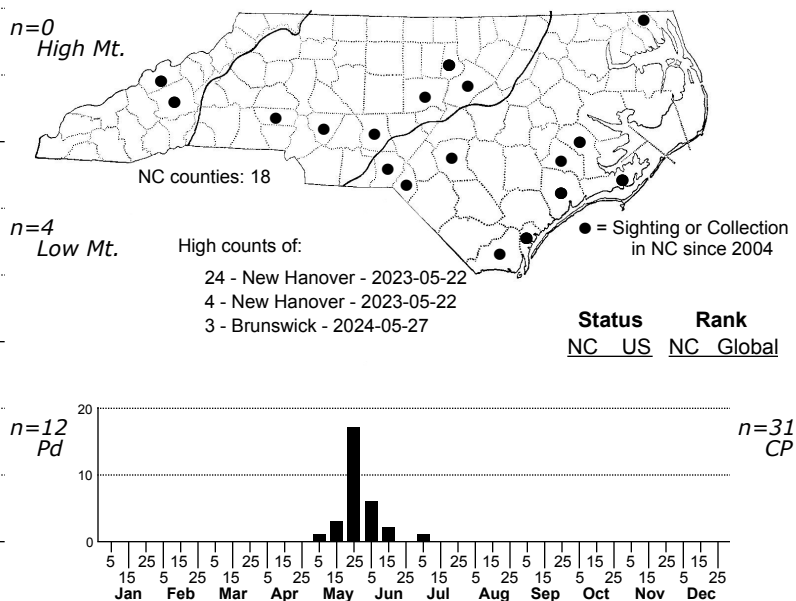
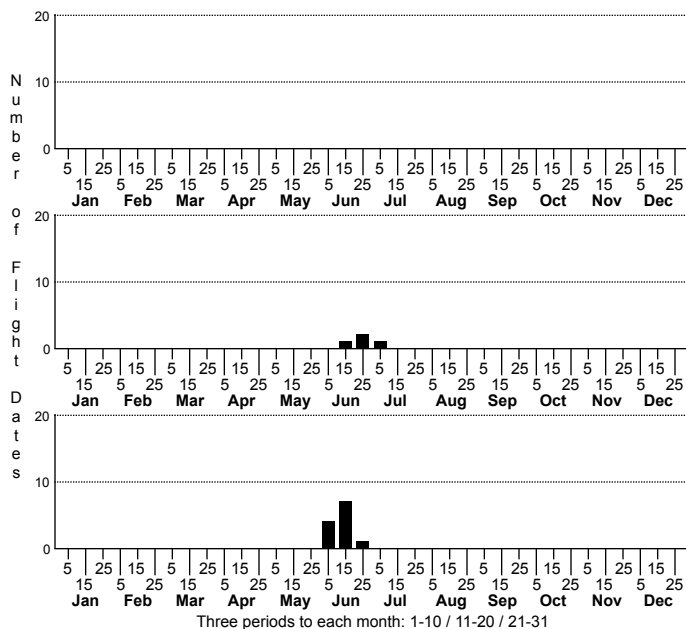


# *Cenopis diluticostana* Spring Dead-leaf Roller Moth



FAMILY: Tortricidae SUBFAMILY: Tortricinae TRIBE: Sparganothini

TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS: The genus *Cenopis* has 19 described species. Seventeen of these are restricted to North America, and all 17 occur in the eastern United States (Brown and Sullivan, 2018). Males of *Cenopis* are easily distinguished from those of *Sparganothis* by the presence of complex scaling on the frons of the head that forms an unusual "hood" of scales. The males also have a deeply invaginated or folded anal area of the hindwing that bears a distinctive hair pencil.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Beadle and Leckie (2012)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Powell and Brown (2012)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: This species is rather distinctive due to its relatively small size and forewing color and patterning. The following description is mostly based on that of Powell and Brown (2012). The head, palps, and antennae are purplish-brown, while the thorax is chestnut brown with the anterior margin purplish-brown. The forewing ground color is variable, but is usually light brown to dark chestnut brown, with lighter coloration often evident on the basal two-thirds of the costal region, particularly in males. There are typically two broad, well-defined, purplish-brown fascia (sometimes interrupted) that extend from the costa to the inner margin. The first is about one-third to one-half the distance from the base to the apex, and the second about three-fifths to four-fifths the distance from the base to the apex. The scales are often white-tipped in fresh specimens and can produce a frosted appearance in some instances. The termen often has a thin dark purplish-brown band that is concolorous with the fasciae, while the extreme base of the costa has a thin purplish-brown line that joins a similar line of scales on the anterior margin of the thorax. The fringe tends to be concolorous with the ground, while the hindwing is grayish-brown to rusty-brown with a concolorous fringe. The female forewing pattern is similar to that of the male, except it is evenly overscaled with iridescent brick red, which may obscure the pattern elements.

DISTRIBUTION: *Cenopis diluticostana* is found throughout most of the US, and in Ontario and Quebec. The range in the US extends from Maine and other New England states southward to southern Florida, and westward to central Texas, central Oklahoma, central Kansas, central Nebraska, Minnesota, and eastern North Dakota. This species occurs essentially statewide in North Carolina, but is uncommon and restricted to lower elevations in the Blue Ridge.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults fly from March through October in most areas of the range, with a seasonal peak from April through August. Local populations in North Carolina have a relatively short flight season and are univoltine. As of 2023, our records extend from mid-May through early July.

HABITAT: Local populations are generally associated with hardwood or mixed conifer-hardwood forests, along with forest edges and semi-wooded residential neighborhoods.

FOOD: The larvae are polyphagous and feed on a variety of hardwood trees and shrubs (Godfrey et al., 1987; Wagner et al., 1995; Heppner, 2007; Robinson et al., 2010; Powell and Brown, 2012; Marquis et al., 2019). The reported hosts include White Birch (*Betula populifolia*), hawthorns (*Crataegus*), American Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), White Ash (*Fraxinus americana*), cultivated apples (*Malus domestica*), Sweet Mock-orange (*Philadelphus coronarius*), Choke Cherry (*Prunus virginiana*) and cultivated cherries, Scarlet Oak (*Quercus coccinea*), Northern Red Oak (*Q. rubra*), lilac (*Syringa*) and Northern Highbush Blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*).

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: *Cenopis diluticostana* appears to be moderately common in the Coastal Plain and eastern Piedmont. More information is needed on its host use, preferred habitats, and abundance before we can accurately assess its conservation status within the state.