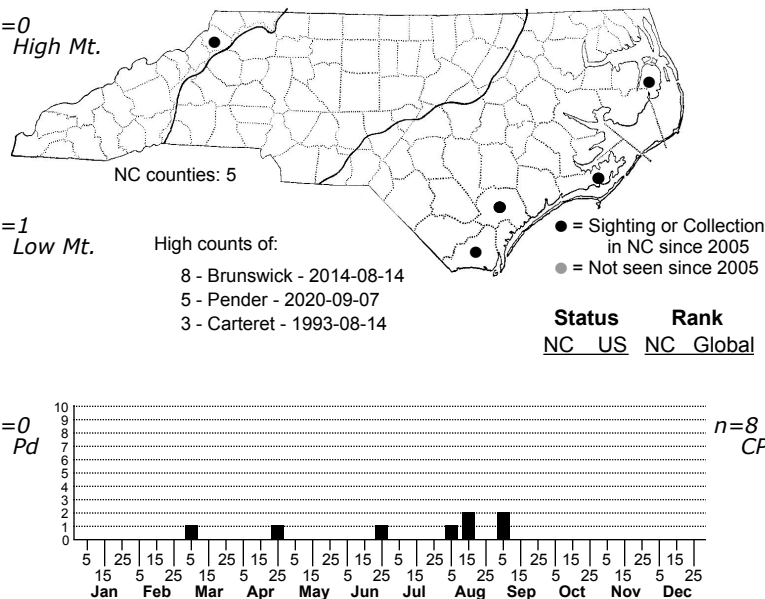
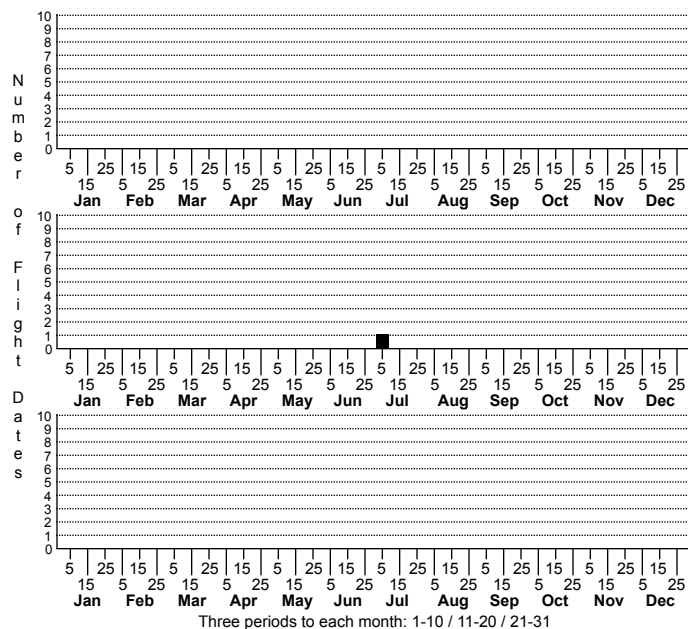


# Argyria nummulalis Satin Argyria



FAMILY: Crambidae SUBFAMILY: Crambinae TRIBE: Argyriini  
TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Martinez and Brown (2007)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: This is a distinctively marked crambid in which the palps, head and thorax vary from brownish-red to brownish-orange. The forewing is satiny-white and boldly contrasts with a narrow, bright, yellowish-orange streak along the inner margin. The streak terminates at the tornus where it is replaced by a prominent, light brown to yellowish-orange fringe. The costal can be either satiny white or have a very faint yellowish-orange dusting or streak. The terminal line is dark-brown and often faint, and the hindwing can vary from dull-white to brownish-black in rare instances. It typically has a whitish fringe and may have a thin terminal line that is orangish-white. This species is unique among our *Argyria* species in having a prominent, yellowish-orange streak along the inner margin.

DISTRIBUTION: *Argyria nummulalis* is found in the eastern U.S. from Massachusetts southward along the Atlantic Coast to southern Florida, and westward along the Gulf Coast to Texas. Specimens have also been documented away from coastal regions in portions of Mississippi, Alabama, Kentucky, South Carolina, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Arkansas, Missouri, Illinois and Minnesota. As of 2023, we have a single record from the Blue Ridge, with all others from coastal communities in the east.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults fly year-round in Florida and from April through September elsewhere. As of 2023, our records range from late-April through early-September.

HABITAT: Our records are mostly from pine savannas and other fire-maintained coastal communities with wetlands. The Blue Ridge record is from Lake Julian.

FOOD: The host plants are undocumented. Heppner (2007) list the hosts as 'grass' but did not provide any evidence for this. It may simply reflect the tendency for many members of this taxonomic group to use grasses as hosts.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights and can be flushed from savannas and other suitable habitats.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR S1S3

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 throughout its range and is affiliated with wet savannas and other wetland habitats. It appears to be rare in North Carolina, with only seven site records as of 2023. More information is needed on its distribution, abundance and larval life history before we can accurately assess its conservation status.