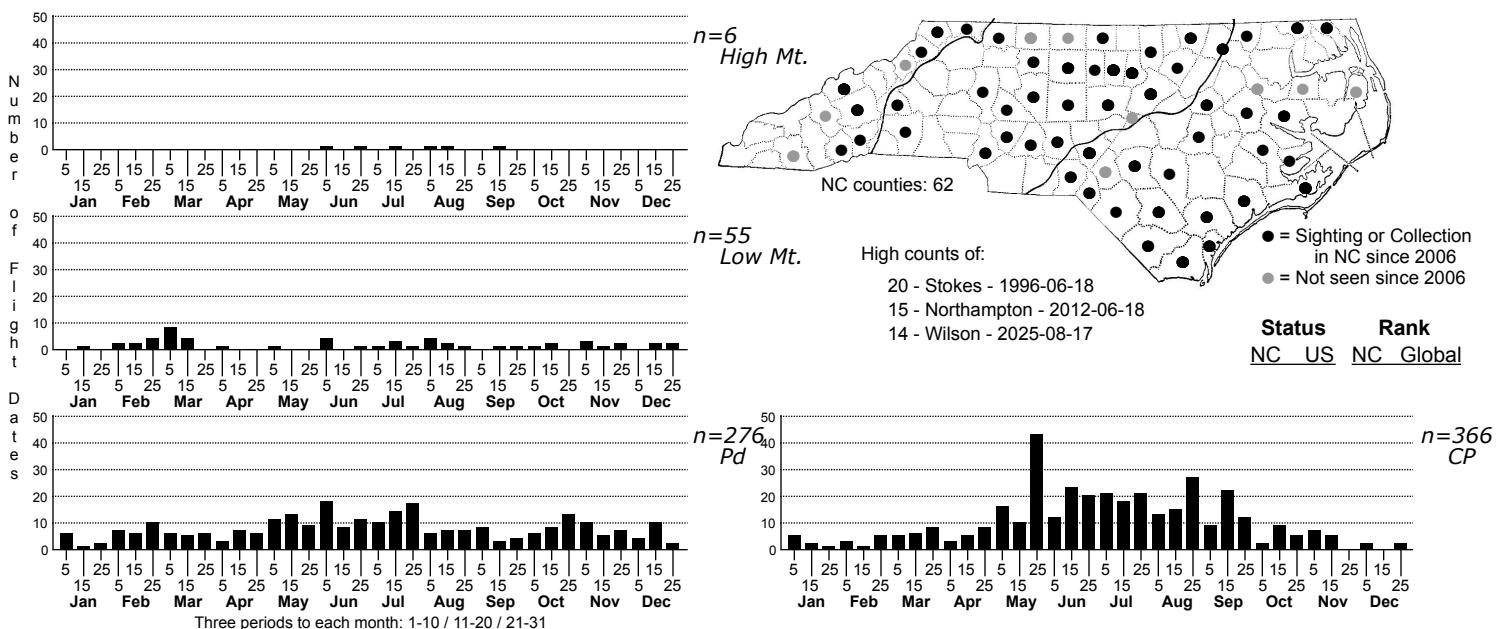


# *Iridopsis defectaria* Brown-shaded Gray



FAMILY: Geometridae SUBFAMILY: Ennominae TRIBE: Boarmiini

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: One of 20 species in this genus that occur in North America north of Mexico, seven of which have been recorded in North Carolina. In Rindge's 1966 revision of this group, 18 were placed in *Anacamptodes*, which he recognized as possibly representing the same genus as *Iridopsis*, and two in *Iridopsis* itself.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Covell (1984; as *Anacamptodes defectaria*)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: This is one of the larger members of this genus in North Carolina. It is similar in size and pattern to *I. vellivolata* -- both have reddish brown shading before the antemedian and following the postmedian -- but having a definite whitish ground color rather than the bluish or purplish color of *vellivolata*. The pale form of *pergracilis* is similar in ground color and shading, but has a less undulating postmedian, particular at M2 and C2.

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT: Habitats include barrens, forests, and woodlands (Wagner et al., 2001). Our records come from a wide range of hardwood forests, maritime habitats, Longleaf Pine ecosystems, and peatlands.

FOOD: Larvae are polyphagous, feeding on a variety of hardwood trees. Wagner et al. (2001) specifically list walnut (*Juglans*), poplar (*Populus*), cherry (*Prunus*), oak (*Quercus*), and willow (*Salix*). In North Carolina, we have records for Common Pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*) and Willow Oak (*Quercus phellos*).

OBSERVATION METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G5 SNR [S5]

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

COMMENTS: