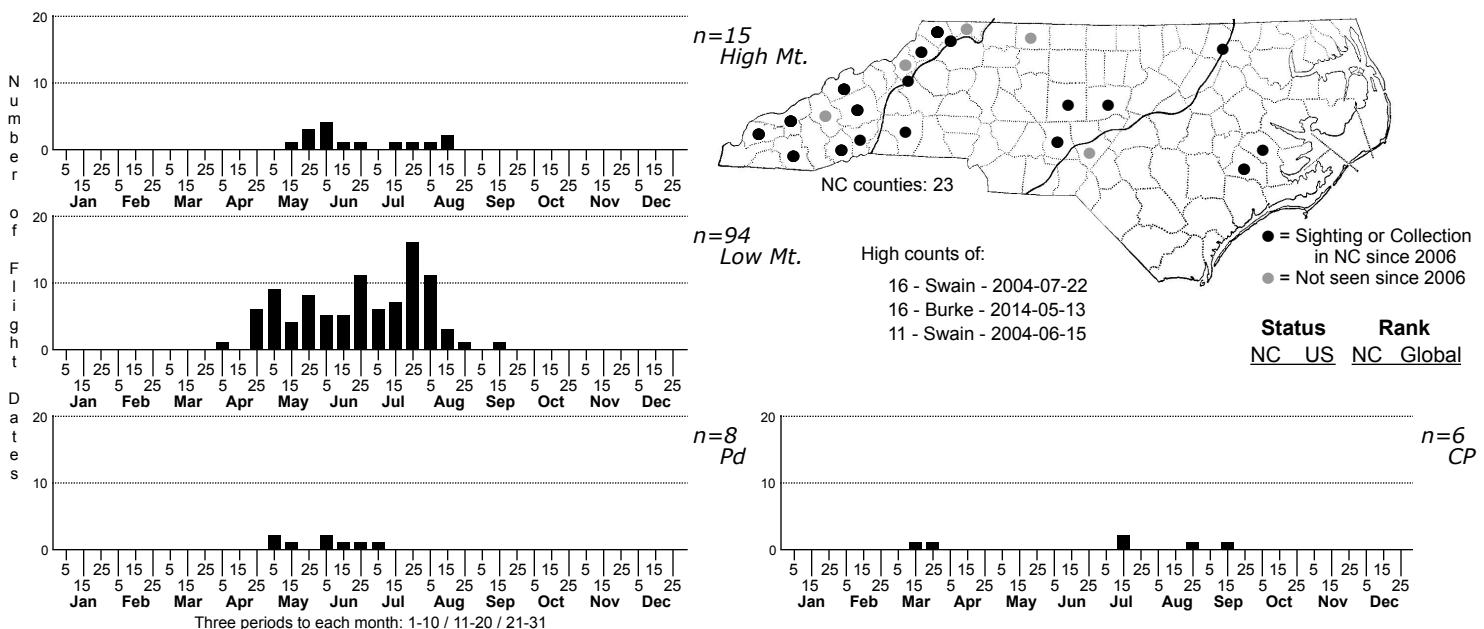


Gueneria similaria False Yellow-dusted Cream



FAMILY: Geometridae SUBFAMILY: Ennominae TRIBE: Lithinini

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: A monotypic genus restricted to eastern North America

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1948)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: Wagner et al. (2001)

ID COMMENTS: A medium-small, pale yellowish-white Geometrid. The ground color of the forewings, as well as the head and body, is cream colored. The overall orange dusting in all but well-worn specimens is characteristic, usually forming three to four transverse bands. This species is apt to be confused with species of Cabera and maybe even Scopula. A black discal spot and brown postmedial spots on the undersides of the wings can be used to distinguish this species from Cabera (Forbes, 1948).

DISTRIBUTION: The species is found across the state but becomes less common with increasing altitude.

FLIGHT COMMENT: There are probably at least two broods

HABITAT: All of our records come from wet to mesic hardwood forests where there is an abundance of ferns. It has a wide elevational range in the mountains, where it occurs in riparian forests, cove forests, and northern hardwoods. In the Piedmont, it has been found on several monadnocks but also in lower areas with fern-rich slopes. Our few records from the Coastal Plain come either from mesic slopes adjoining brownwater floodplains or a few other relatively isolated stands of mesic hardwoods growing on slopes above blackwater rivers.

FOOD: Larvae feed on ferns, and do not seem to be particularly choosy, though host plant records are needed from North Carolina. Wagner et al. (2001) list New York Fern (*Amauropelta noveboracensis*), lady ferns (*Athyrium*), and wood-ferns (*Dryopteris*).

OBSERVATION METHODS: Adults come to light but rarely in numbers. We have no records of adults at bait.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G5 SNR [S3S4]

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

COMMENTS: This species is widespread in the mountains, where it appears to be secure. In most of the Piedmont and Coastal Plain, however, it has a more restricted distribution and is associated with cool mesic forests that are likely to be vulnerable to the effects of climate change.