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Caripeta angustiorata Brown Pine Looper Moth

Rank Status NC US NC Global



1 - Macon - 2000-07-21

SUBFAMILY: Ennominae TRIBE: Ourapterygini FAMILY: Geometridae TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: A moderately sized New World genus with 15 species described from northern Mexico, Canada and the U.S. We have verified 3 species within the state; two more are reported from websites but we have not seen authenticated specimens.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Covell (1984); Beadle and Leckie (2012) **ONLINE PHOTOS:** TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1948) TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: Forbes (1948); Wagner et al. (2001); Wagner (2005); Maier et al. (2011)

ID COMMENTS: A medium-sized, yellow-brown Geometrid. This species is similar in pattern and color but is smaller than C. aretaria and has a pale, almost unmarked hindwing, whereas aretaria has a fuscous hindwing that usually has a well-marked postmedian (Forbes, 1948). Angustoriata is also similar in pattern to C. divisata, but is lighter in color and more reddish. The course of the antemedian line distinguishes it from the similar C. piniata, a more northern species. Sexes are similar.

DISTRIBUTION: Restricted to the Mountains but occurs at both high and low elevations and from the southern to northern borders of the state.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Appears to have a single brood that peaks in late summer

HABITAT: Our records come from both fairly mesic and fairly dry-to-xeric sites, most containing several different species of pines, including both White Pine and one or more of the yellow pines.

FOOD: Larvae feed on pines ($\langle i \rangle$ Pinus $\langle i \rangle$) and spruces ($\langle i \rangle$ Picea $\langle i \rangle$), and less commonly fir ($\langle i \rangle$ Abies $\langle i \rangle$) and larch ($\langle i \rangle$ Larix</i>) (Wagner et al., 2001; Maier et al., 2011). Larvae have not been observed in North Carolina, and we are uncertain about which conifers are used here as host plants.

OBSERVATION METHODS: Adults have been recorded in light traps, response to bait is unknown but unlikely.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G5 SNR [S1S2]

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 much less common that our other species of $\langle i \rangle$ caripeta $\langle i \rangle$, with only one record made since 2001.