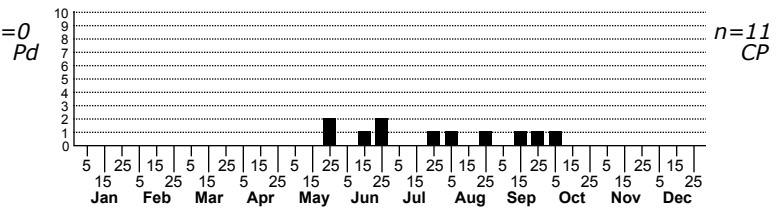
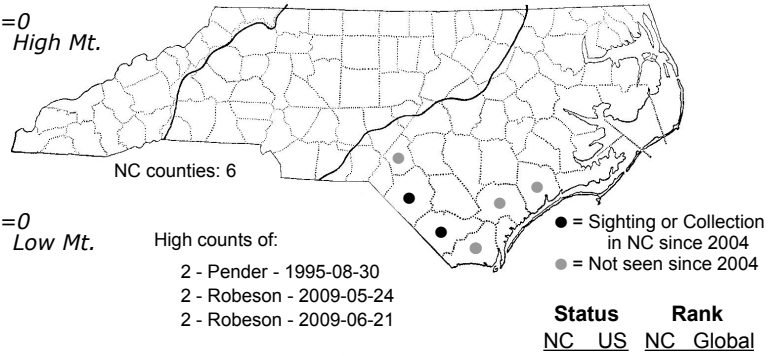


# *Nematocampa baggettaria* Baggett's Spanworm Moth



FAMILY: Geometridae SUBFAMILY: Ennominae TRIBE: Cassymini

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: One of three species in this genus that occur north of Mexico (Ferguson, 2008), two of which are found in North Carolina

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Ferguson (2008)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: A small orange-brown Geometrid. Much smaller than *N. resistaria*, with more rounded wings and with little or no reticulated patterning. In some specimens, the outer third of both wings is darkened, similar to the typical pattern of *resistaria*; others, however, are fairly uniform ocraceous yellow over the entire wing. Antemedian and postmedian lines are dark brown and there is usually a dark discal spot on each wing.

DISTRIBUTION: Probably restricted to the Coastal Plain and possibly to just the southern portion, including the Fall-line Sandhills

FLIGHT COMMENT: Adults have been recorded in North Carolina throughout the growing season, from May to October

HABITAT: Most of our records come from stands of hardwoods, including both riparian forests or dry-mesic forests growing on slopes. A few records also come from Longleaf Pine habitats, including sandhills, but all from sites located close to stands of wet hardwoods.

FOOD: Unknown (Ferguson, 2008)

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: Comes at least to some extent to blacklights but we have no records from bait. Currently, we do not know enough about the habitats or abundance of this species to determine how well we are detecting its presence.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G2G4 S1S2

STATE PROTECTION: Listed as Significantly Rare by the Natural Heritage Program. That designation, however, does not confer any legal protection, although permits are required to collect it on state parks and other public lands.

COMMENTS: Appears to be rare throughout its range (Ferguson, 2008) but more needs to be learned about its host plants and habitats in order to determine the underlying causes for its scarcity (NatureServe, 2015).