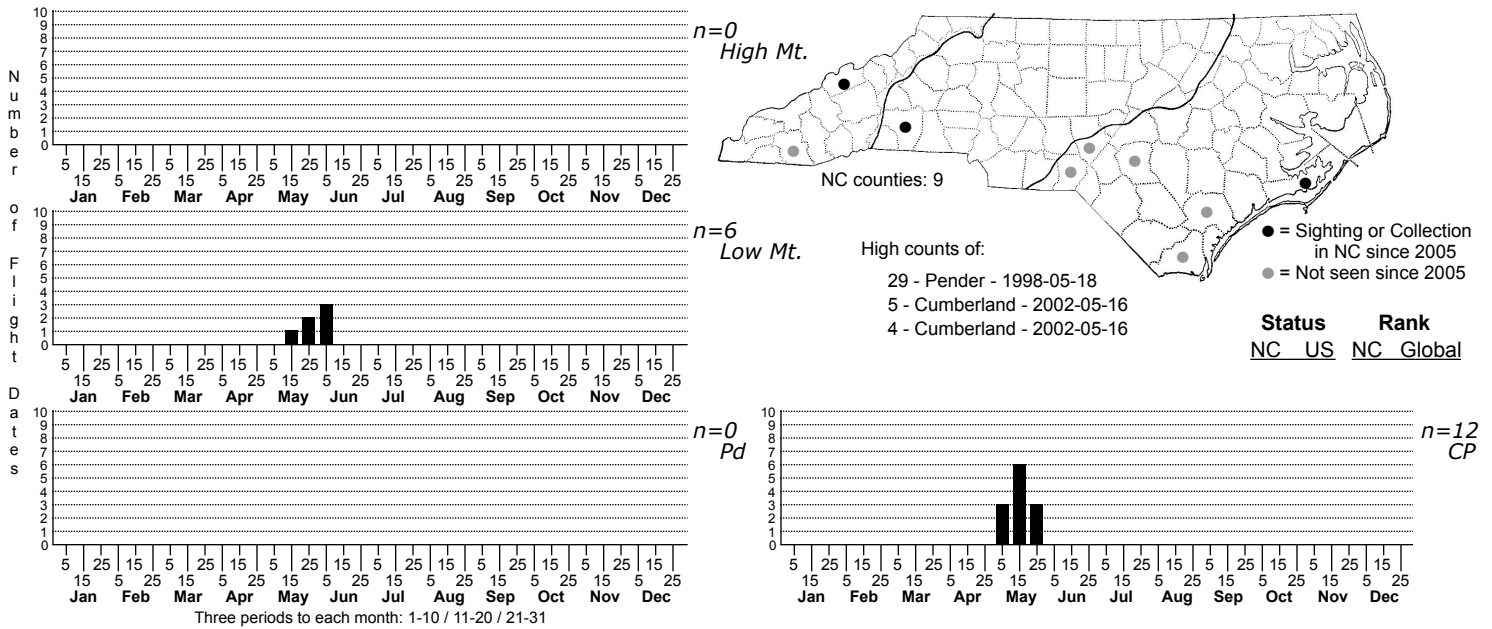


*Idaea eremiata* Straw Wave



FAMILY: Geometridae SUBFAMILY: Sterrhinae TRIBE: Sterrhini

TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS: One of thirty species in this genus that occur in North America north of Mexico (Pohl et al., 2016). Thirteen have been recorded in North Carolina.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1948)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: A small, pale, poorly marked Wave. Forbes (1948) describes the eastern form as light luteous, with a faint postmedian. It is similar to paler forms of *I. demissaria* but with a more contrasting red-brown face and palps -- photographs should show the face to be acceptable as records for this species.

DISTRIBUTION: Our records come from the southern half of the state but from the Blue Ridge to the Coast

FLIGHT COMMENT: Univoltine with all of our records coming from May and early June

HABITAT: Almost all of our records come from along small streams or impoundments located within otherwise dry habitats -- sandhills in the Coastal Plain and upland woodlands in the Blue Ridge.

FOOD: Larvae reportedly feed on plant detritus, such as dead oak leaves (Wagner, 2005).

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: Appears to come fairly well to blacklights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G4 S3S4

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

COMMENTS: We have only a small number of records for this species, but scattered over a fairly wide area and coming from habitats that appear to be fairly common. More information is needed on the host plants used by this species, which may, in turn, provide a clearer picture of its distribution and habitat preferences. An accurate assessment of its conservation status cannot be done until these data are obtained.