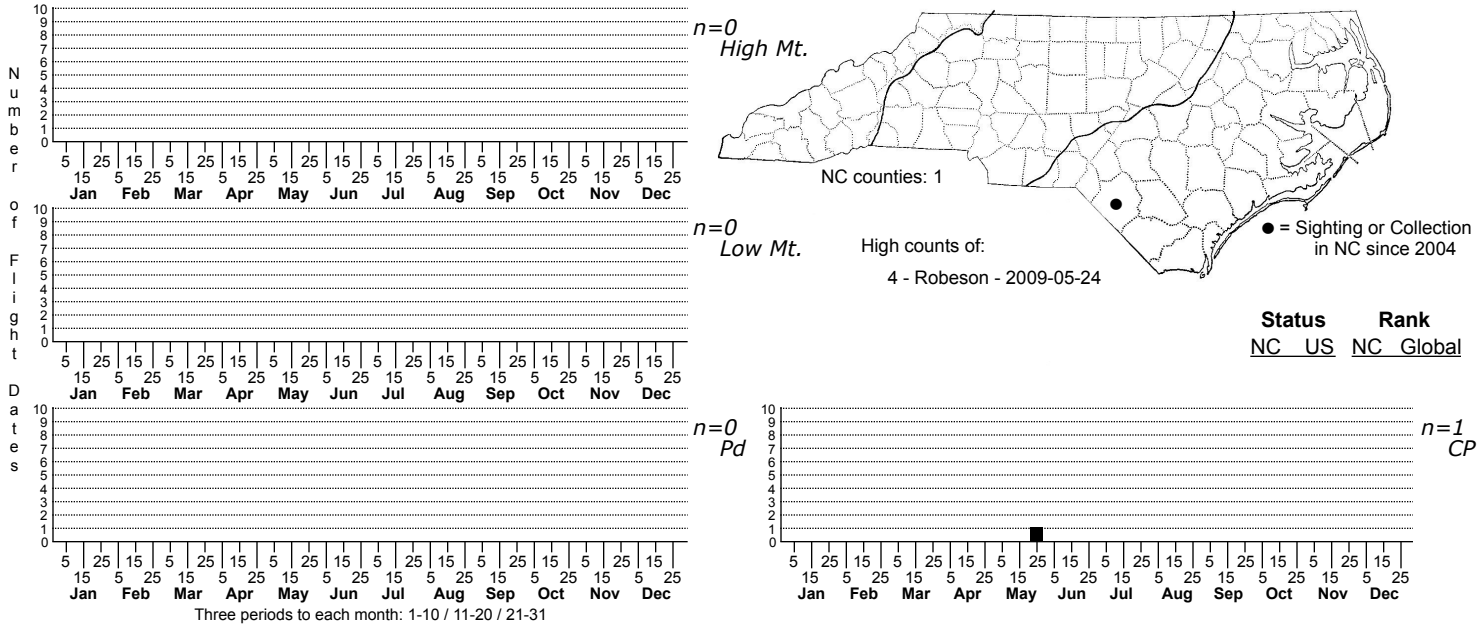
Idaea hilliata Hill's Wave Moth



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: MPG, BugGuide, BAMONA, BOLD
TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Hulst (1887)
TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: A small, tan Wave with a contrastingly black, waved postmedian lines on both pairs of wings. A black dot is located at the base of the hindwings and a series of dark terminal dots exists on both wings. No other species of Geometrid has a similar pattern.

DISTRIBUTION: Recorded in North Carolina only a single site in the southern Coastal Plain

FLIGHT COMMENT: Our one record comes from May

HABITAT: The North Carolina specimen was collected in a floodplain forest

FOOD: Apparently not recorded

OBSERVATION_METHODS: Our one specimen was collected using a 15 watt UV blacklight trap

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: [GNR SU]

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

COMMENTS: This species is primarily Floridian and it may occur in North Carolina as only a stray; in South Carolina, it has been recorded only along the Coast near Charleston (Snyder, 2017). More sampling is needed to determine its status as a resident species, and more information is needed on its overall distribution, host plants, and habitat associations before its conservation status can be assessed.