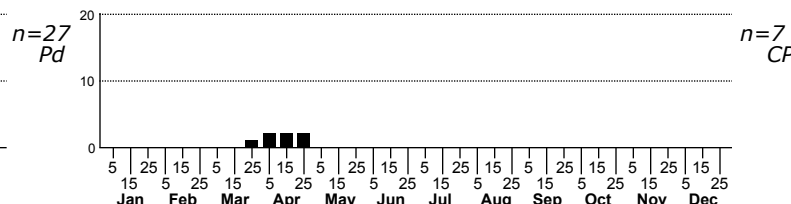
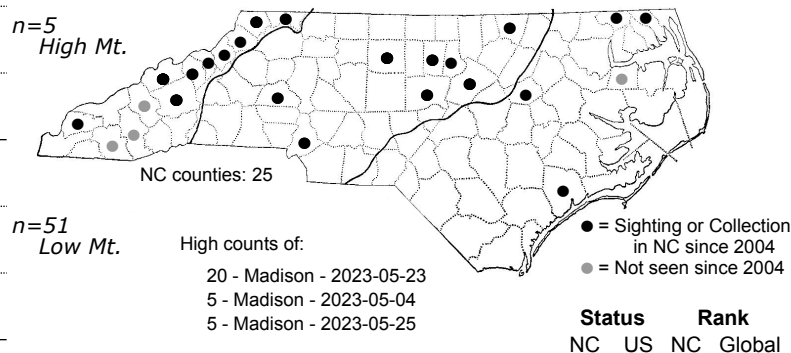
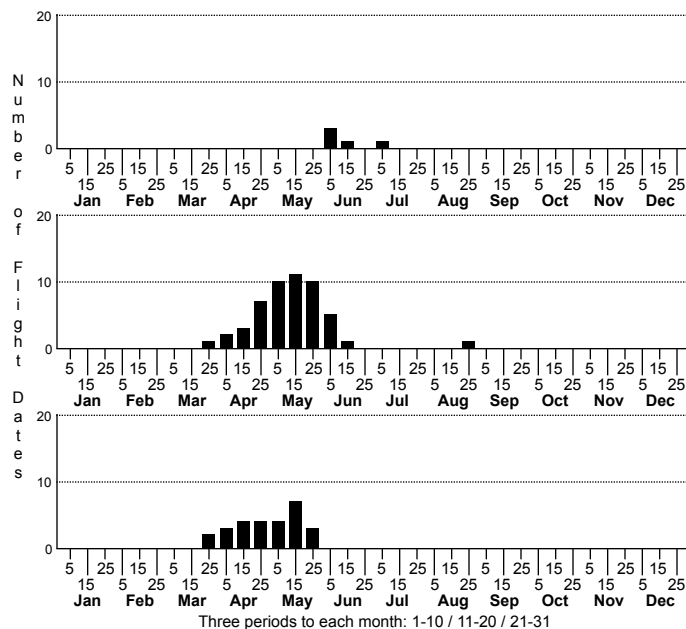


# *Amorbia humerosana* White-line Leafroller Moth



FAMILY: Tortricidae SUBFAMILY: Tortricinae TRIBE: Sparganothini  
TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Covell (1984); Beadle and Leckie (2012)  
ONLINE PHOTOS:  
TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Powell and Brown (2012)  
TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: This species is easy to distinguish based on its very large size (the largest tortricine in the eastern United States) and its overall grayish coloration. The following description is based primarily on that of Powell and Brown (2012). The head and palps are grayish to grayish-brown, while the flagellum of the antenna is grayish to grayish brown with a whitish base. The forewing pattern and hues of gray are variable across the range, but most specimens have a light gray ground color that is overlain with a large dark gray to orangish-gray triangular mark that extends inward to near the middle of the wing. The base of the mark usually extends from around one-third the distance from the wing base to the apex. Specimens sometimes have the mark poorly expressed or broken into several smaller blotches. Most specimens also have an orangish wash along the inner margin that extends from near the base to the subterminal region. The entire wing is overlain by numerous dark brown to blackish specks, and the hindwing is brown with a paler fringe.

DISTRIBUTION: *Amorbia humerosana* is found throughout much of the eastern US and in Canada from British Columbia and Alberta eastward to Nova Scotia. In the US the range extends from Maine southward to southern Florida, and westward to eastern Texas, eastern Oklahoma, eastern Kansas, eastern Nebraska, Illinois, Wisconsin and eastern Minnesota. An apparent isolate is present in northeastern North Dakota. This species is found statewide in North Carolina, but is relatively uncommon in the Coastal Plain and higher elevations in the Blue Ridge.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Populations appear to be univoltine through the range, with the possible exception of Florida. The adults have been observed during most months of the year in different areas of the range, but most local populations fly for a two to three month period following the spring leaf-out. As of 2023, our records extend from late March through mid-June, with the exception of one late season record from late-August in the Blue Ridge.

HABITAT: Local populations are generally associated with conifer, mixed conifer-hardwood, or hardwood forests, as well as forest edges and residential neighborhoods. The habitats that are used in North Carolina include spruce-fir forests, mesic cove forests and slopes, oak-hickory and mixed pine-oak forests in the Piedmont, and bottomland forests in the Coastal Plain. Many of our records are also from semi-wooded residential neighborhoods.

FOOD: The larvae are polyphagous leaf-rollers that feed mostly on trees and shrubs, including both conifers and hardwoods (Frost, 1926; Schaffner, 1959; MacKay, 1962; Prentice, 1966; Chapman and Lienk, 1971; Baker, 1972; Heppner, 2007; Robinson et al., 2010; Beadle & Leckie, 2012; Powell and Brown, 2012). Conifers generally tend to be used more often at northern latitudes. The reported hosts include Balsam Fir (*Abies balsamea*), alders (*Alnus*), Yellow Birch (*Betula alleghaniensis*), American Chestnut (*Castanea dentata*), hawthorns (*Crataegus*), ashes (*Fraxinus*), huckleberries (*Gaylussacia*), Tamarack (*Larix laricina*), Butter-and-eggs (*Linaria vulgaris*), Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*), honeysuckle (*Lonicera*), domesticated apples (*Malus domestica*), bayberries (*Myrica*), Sourwood (*Oxydendrum arboreum*), White Spruce (*Picea glauca*), Red Spruce (*P. rubens*), Jack Pine (*Pinus banksiana*), White Pine (*P. strobus*), Quaking Aspen (*Populus tremuloides*), Fire Cherry (*Prunus pensylvanica*), oaks (*Quercus*), Staghorn Sumac (*Rhus typhina*), willows (*Salix*), goldenrods (*Solidago*), Northern White Cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*), Poison-ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*), Eastern Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*), American Elm (*Ulmus americana*), blueberries (*Vaccinium*), and Arrow-wood (*Viburnum dentatum*). We do not have any feeding records in North Carolina.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR[S4S5]

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

COMMENTS: *Amorbia humerosana* is relatively common in the Blue Ridge and Piedmont where populations appear to be secure.