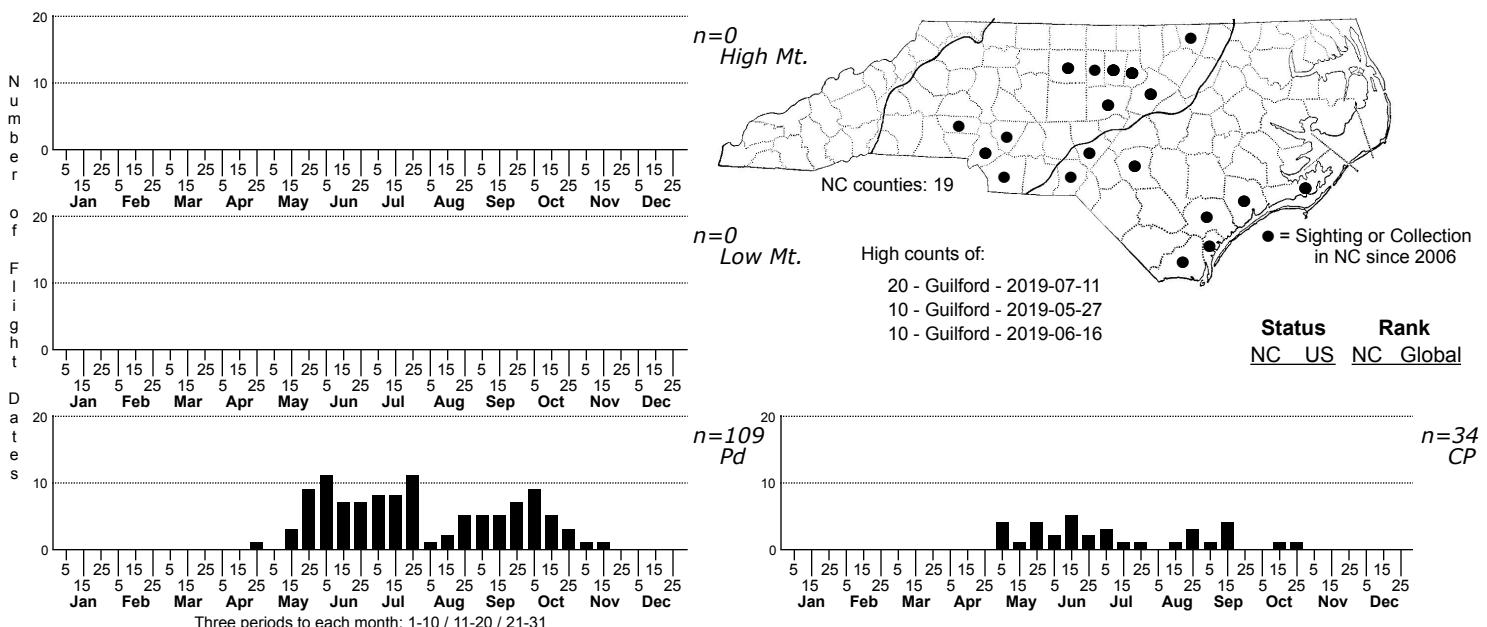


Autosticha kyotensis Kyoto Moth



FAMILY: Peleopodidae SUBFAMILY: Autostichinae TRIBE: TAXONOMIC COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Ueda (1997)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The following is based on the description by Ueda (1997). The head is grayish buff and the individual scales are tipped with pale fuscous. The antenna is yellowish ocherous with narrow pale fuscous annulations. The labial palp is yellowish ocherous and the second segment is strongly speckled with fuscous. The third segment is largely unmarked. The thorax and forewing are ocherous, and the tips of individual scales are pale fuscous which produces a finely irrorated effect. There are two dark spots at about two-fifths the wing length. The outer (discal) is often larger than the inner. A second discal spot occurs at about three-fifths that is often faint and somewhat bilobed longitudinally. A series of 4-5 fuscous spots occur along the termen and continue parallel to the costa to about the apical fifth. A diffuse fuscous spot or dusting of dark scales is sometimes evident just anterior to the tornus. The cilia are ocherous with a fuscous sub-basal shade. The hindwing is pale shining brownish gray, and the abdomen grayish buff. The legs are yellowish ocherous and strongly speckled with pale fuscous.

This species closely resembles *Glyphidocera dimorphella* and *G. septentrionella*, but these species tend to have a lighter background coloration with scattered darker specks, versus a straw color and a more uniformly fine-grained pattern for *Autosticha*. The pair of anterior spots on *Glyphidocera* slant diagonally, with the inner spot more anterior. Those of *Autosticha* do not and are about the same distance from a reference point such as the wing base. Finally, the thorax and forewings of *Autosticha* tend to have a finely roughened texture, while those of *G. dimorphella* and *G. septentrionella* are smoother with a somewhat shiny appearance. *Autosticha kyotensis* also closely resembles a third species, *G. juniperella*, but has a much more distinct line of relatively large terminal spots.

DISTRIBUTION: *Autosticha kyotensis* is widespread in the southeastern US and vicinity. It occurs from southern Maryland and Virginia southward to Florida and westward to western Arkansas and central Texas. A few scattered populations occur farther north. All of our records are from the Piedmont and Coastal Plain.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Adults are most active during the warmer months of the year. As of 2020, our records extend from May through mid-November.

HABITAT: The hosts plants in the US are unknown. Most of our records are from residential neighborhoods.

FOOD: This species uses Deodar Cedar (*Cedrus deodora*) and Japanese Apricot (*Prunus mume*) in Japan (Ueda, 1997). The hosts that are used in the US are unknown.

OBSERVATION METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR SNA

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

COMMENTS: This is an introduced species that does not merit protection.

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