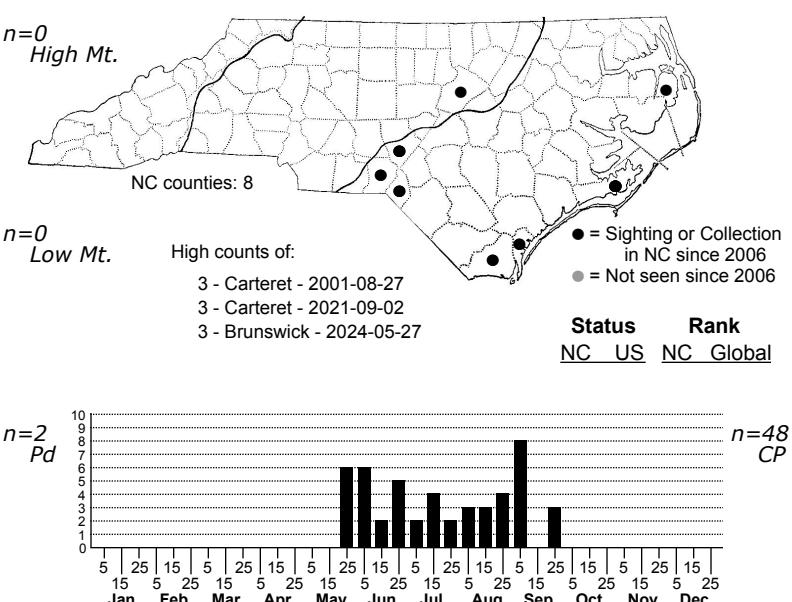
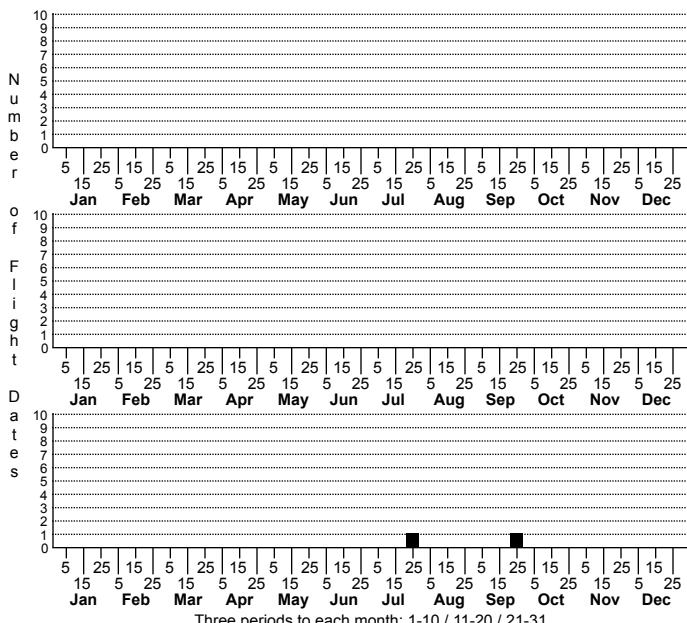


Antaeotricha albulella None



FAMILY: Depressariidae SUBFAMILY: Stenomatinae TRIBE:

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: The genus *Antaeotricha* is endemic to the New World and includes nearly 400 species of mostly neotropical species. Twenty species are currently recognized in North America.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Duckworth (1964)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The following is based on the description by Duckworth (1964). The face is white and the labial palp is white with dusky scales on the exterior sides in the male. The legs are white and speckled with dusky scales. The dorsum of the thorax, abdomen and forewing are white, except for the costal that is slightly edged ocherous, and one or two small black dots on the forewing at the distal end of the discal cell. The hindwing is white with white cilia. This species closely resembles *A. floridella* that is currently only known from sandhill and scrub habitats in Florida. The latter typically lacks the discal spots seen on *A. albulella* and has pale gray hindwings.

DISTRIBUTION: *Antaeotricha albulella* is found in the eastern US and is primarily limited to the Southeast. The range extends primarily along coastal regions from New Jersey southward to North Carolina, then broadens to include a wide swath from South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida westward to Oklahoma. As of 2020, we have four records that include Dare and Carteret counties on the coast and Wake County in the Piedmont.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Adults have been collected from April through October in different areas of the range. As of 2020, our records extend from late May through late September.

HABITAT: The larvae appear to be specialists on oaks, and primarily on species that inhabit dry to xeric habitats. Our records include costal dune scrub and maritime forest habitats. The habitats that are used in the Piedmont are poorly resolved.

FOOD: Hosts that were reported by Hayden and Dickel (2015) for Florida specimens included Bluejack Oak (*Quercus incana*), Turkey Oak (*Q. laevis*), Myrtle Oak (*Q. myrtifolia*), Water Oak (*Q. nigra*), Scrub Oak (*Q. inopina*) and Chapman's Oak (*Q. chapmanii*). An adult was reared from a larva on Nuttall's Oak (*Q. texana*) in Texas (BugGuide record). We do not have any feeding records in North Carolina.

OBSERVATION METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR S3S4

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

COMMENTS: We currently do not have sufficient information on the distribution and abundance of this species to assess its conservation status.