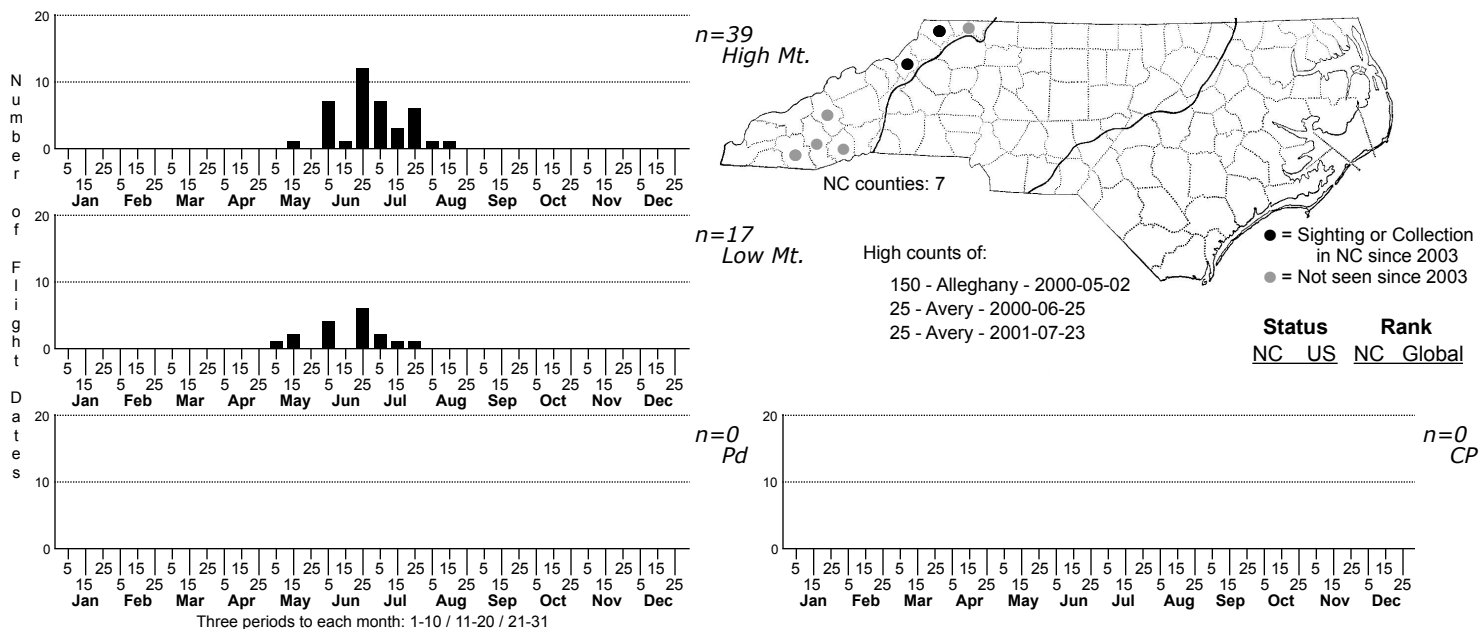


Homorthodes furfurata Northern Scurfy Quaker Moth



FAMILY: Noctuidae SUBFAMILY: Noctuinae TRIBE: Eriopygini

TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS: Like the North American genus *Protorthodes*, *Homorthodes* has some 15 named species, mostly from the southwestern United States but with two occurring in North Carolina.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Covell (1984); Beadle and Leckie (2012)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1954)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: Neil (1983)

ID COMMENTS: A medium-sized brownish moth often with a distinct black curved line through the median area of the forewing. Likely to be confused with *Pseudorthodes vecors* (the form lacking a white reniform), *Orthodes cynica*, and *Protorthodes oviduca*. *H. furfurata* lacks traces of reddish coloring and is usually smaller than the other species. Sexes are similar.

DISTRIBUTION: Restricted to the Mountains in North Carolina

FLIGHT COMMENT: Apparently single brooded in the middle of the summer but the flight period is rather broad.

HABITAT: Our records come from both open areas and upland hardwoods, often where artificial openings are present, such as overlooks, picnic areas, and visitor centers.

FOOD: Crumb (1956) recorded Maple and Indian Plum as foodplants, along with dead leaves, but larvae reared by Neil (1983) rejected those species and Cherry and fed -- albeit slowly - only on Dandelion. All of these records were obtained from larvae produced by enclosing a female for eggs; what they actually feed on in the wild is unknown but are likely to be a variety of forbs and grasses.

OBSERVATION_METHODS: Adults come to light but we have no information regarding their attraction to bait or flowers.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G5 [S4]

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

COMMENTS: This species appears to occur throughout the Mountains, at both high and relatively low elevations. It also makes use of a broad range of habitats, including some disturbed sites. It therefore seems relatively secure in the state.