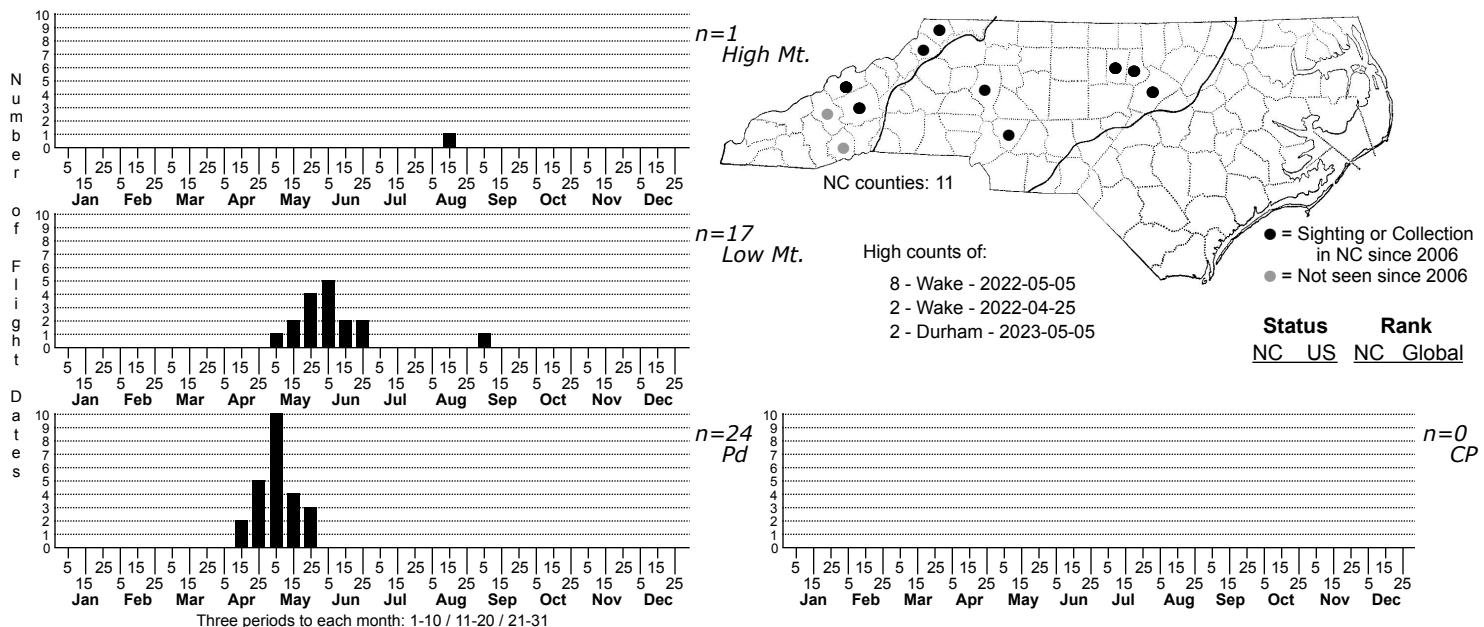


Eido trimaculella Three-spotted Concealer Moth



FAMILY: Oecophoridae SUBFAMILY: Oecophorinae TRIBE: Oecophorini

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Beadle and Leckie (2012)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Hodges (1974)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The following is primarily based on the descriptions by Busck (1909) and Forbes (1923). The antenna is annulated with black and white, with each joint having a large white scale on the upper side. The third joint of the labial palp is blackish with two longitudinal white lines that terminate just before the base. The second joint is white-tipped and has a pointed ventral tuft of scales. The forewing is noticeably triangular, with a subfalcate apex and arched costa. The ground color is luteus but masked by a heavily dusting of fuscous coloration that produces an overall dusky brown color. White scales are sprinkling across the forewing and are most concentrated on the apical third where they sometimes form a whitish subterminal band. Three small pale costal spots are usually evident; one in the middle, one at the apical third that is the largest, and one just before the apex. The fringe is dark with a double series of pale bars, and the hindwing is dark. The patterning on this species is somewhat variable. The subfalcate apex and arched costa create a distinctive shape which, along with the maculation, is diagnostic.

DISTRIBUTION: <i>Eido trimaculella</i> is widely distributed in eastern North America, with a few scattered records in the West in British Columbia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan. In the East, it occurs in southern Canada (Manitoba to Nova Scotia) and throughout most of the eastern US from the New England states south to Florida and westward to Louisiana, Arkansas, Illinois, and Minnesota. As of 2020, all of our records are from either the Piedmont or lower elevations in the mountains.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Adults have been observed from April through August in different areas of the range. North Carolina populations are univoltine, with adults flying from mid-April through May in the Piedmont and mid-May through June in the lower mountains.

HABITAT: Populations appear to be dependent on bracket fungi as hosts and are associated with hardwood forests or wooded residential neighborhoods.

FOOD: The larvae are fungivores. They are known to feed on bracket fungi and can be found under silken webbing beneath the fungus body (Hodges, 1974; Lawrence and Powell, 1969). The known host include the Tinder Polypore (<i>Fomes fomentarius</i>) and the Birch Polypore (<i>Piptoporus betulinus</i>). This is undoubtedly not an exhaustive list of the fungal resources that are used by this species.

OBSERVATION METHODS: The adults regularly visit lights. We encourage naturalists to seek out the larvae of this and other bracket fungus feeders to determine host use in North Carolina.

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: The adults are regularly encountered in the Piedmont and lower mountains, but more detailed information is needed on this species distribution and abundance before its conservation status can be accurately assessed.