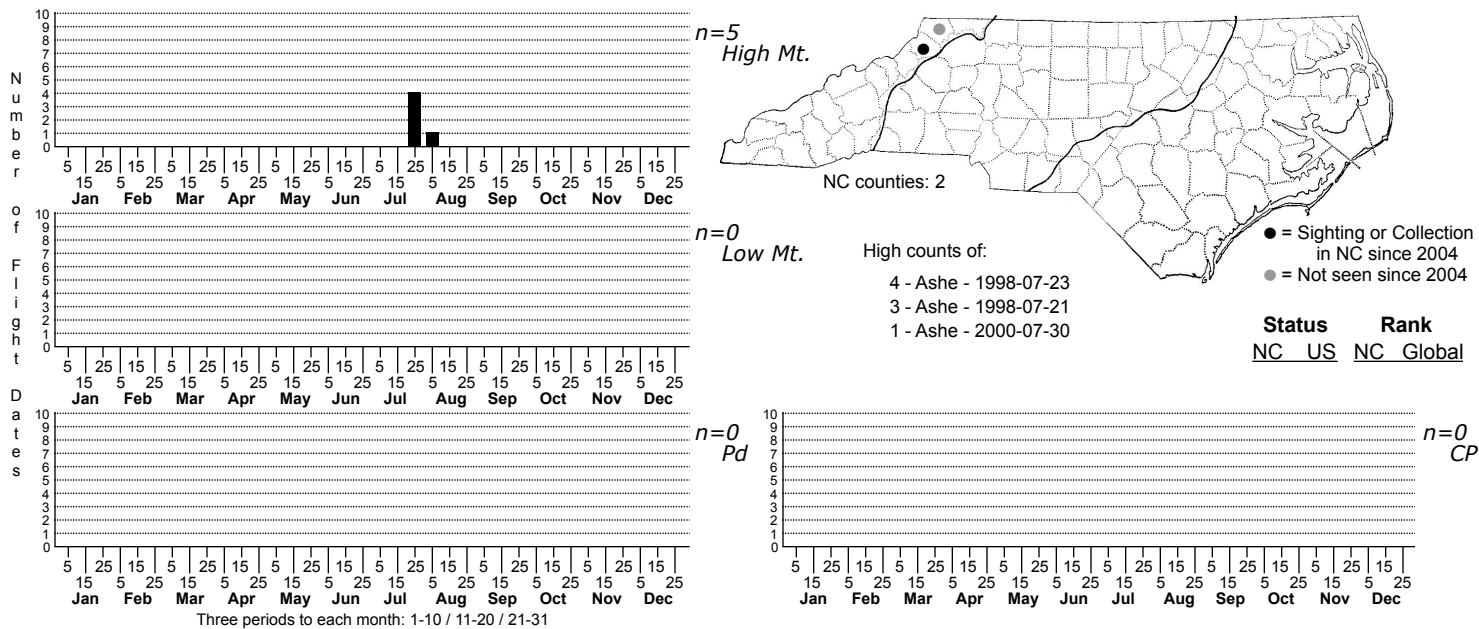


Euxoa redimicula Fillet Dart Moth



FAMILY: Noctuidae SUBFAMILY: Noctuinae TRIBE: Noctuini

TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS: One of 181 species that occur in North America north of Mexico (Lafontaine and Schmidt, 2010). Most are Western but 13 have been recorded in North Carolina. Redimicula to the Detersa Group of Subgenus Euxoa (Lafontaine, 1987); detersa is the only other member of this group that occurs here.

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

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Lafontaine (1987)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: A medium-sized, bluish-gray Dart. The ground color is typically dull blue-gray, with a contrastingly black basal dash and with similarly dark marks before the orbicular and between the orbicular and reniform. The orbicular and reniform are large and filled with the pale ground color; the claviform is relatively small and pale filled, but with a blackish outline. The subterminal area is pale, contrasting with the darker terminal area. Hindwings are light fuscous in the males, with a darker gray marginal band, and darker fuscous in the females. Euxoa detersa shares the dark marginal band that contrasts with a pale subterminal band, but is usually paler, browner, and lacks the strong dark basal dash found in redimicula.

DISTRIBUTION: Known in North Carolina only from the northern Mountains

FLIGHT COMMENT: Probably univoltine, with adults flying in the summer

HABITAT: All of our records come from sites above 4,000' in elevation, with the majority coming from a site where Bigtooth Aspen (*Populus grandidentata*) is present; the other comes from a wet pasture.

FOOD: Apparently unrecorded, but Lafontaine (1987) noted that it occurs in the Great Plains region in association with groves of Aspen, Cottonwood, and Ponderosa Pine. Given that our own records come primarily from a site where Bigtooth Aspen is present, species of Aspen (or possibly other species of Poplars) seem possible as the host plants for this species.

OBSERVATION_METHODS: Comes to lights but to what extent is unknown

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR [S1S2]

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

COMMENTS: This species is primarily Northern, with records from only two sites in North Carolina. However, the existence of multiple records at one site, and from multiple years, strongly suggests that at least one resident population occurs in the state. If Bigtooth Aspen -- listed as S2 in North Carolina -- turns out to be the host plant for this species, then the rarity of that species could easily explain the rarity of the moth. If that turns out to be the case, then we would recommend designating this species as Significantly Rare in North Carolina.