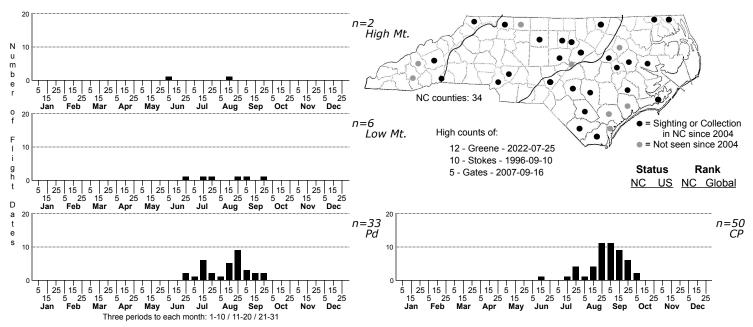
Chloridea virescens Tobacco Budworm Moth



FAMILY: Noctuidae SUBFAMILY: Heliothinae TRIBE: TAXONOMIC COMMENTS:

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

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: Heliothis virescens and subflexa are similar in color and in having three straight lines running across the forewings. The hindwings provide the clearest way to separate the two: both have white hindwings, but virescens has a strong blackish or reddish margin, whereas subflexa has only a faint gray marginal band, if any. BugGuide also suggests that rusty coloring on the forelegs is characteristic of virescens, which appears to be true for at least some individuals but examination of specimens in our collection does not indicate a complete correlation between foreleg color and hindwing color and pattern (J.B. Sullivan, pers. obs.). We continue to recommend that photographs be submitted that show at least a portion of the outer margin of the hindwings.

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT:

FOOD: Larvae are polyphagous, feeding on a wide range of plants, including many crop species. Wagner (2005) specifically lists soybean, cotton, tobacco, geranium, ground-cherry, and rose. Click the link below for a complete list of host plants.

OBSERVATION METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS:

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

COMMENTS: