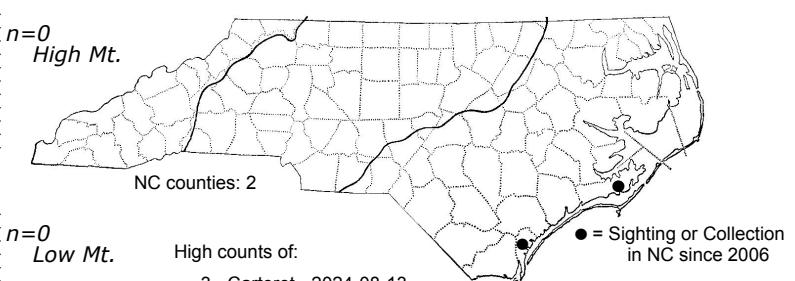
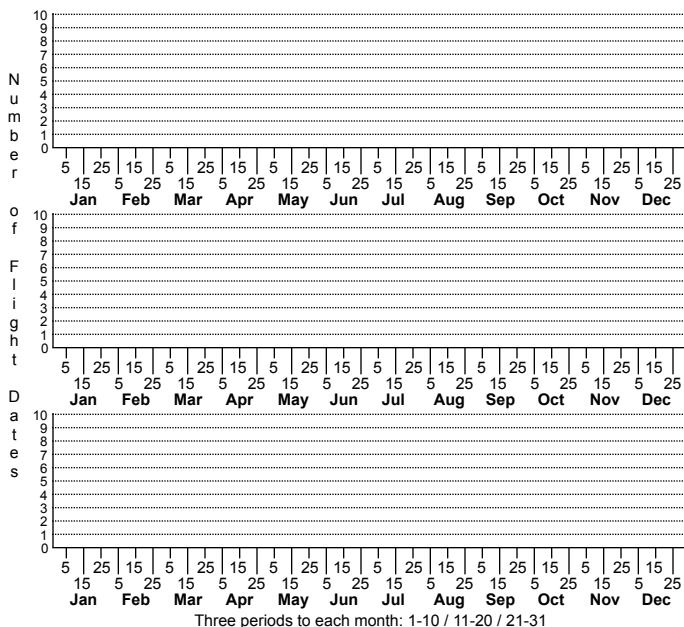


Blastobasis floridella None



Status	Rank		
NC	US	NC	Global

n=3
CP

FAMILY: Blastobasidae SUBFAMILY: TRIBE:
TAXONOMIC COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Dietz (1910)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: This is a rather nondescript *Blastobasis* that lacks a transverse band at one-third the forewing length as seen in some species. The head, thorax and forewings are mostly a uniformly light sandy-brown color with some faint, diffuse dusting of scattered, darker-brown scales. The labial palps are a similar color and dusted with dark scales externally (Dietz, 1910). The antenna is light sandy-brown at the base and a darker tan or brown along the shaft. Males have a notch above the basal segment with a conical tuft in the notch. The forewing typically has a single, blackish, discal dot at around one-half the wing length and two dots at the end of the cell at around three-fourths the wing length. A third, diffuse blotch is often present along the inner margin next to the two dots at the end of the cell, and a row of black dots is present along the base of the cilia. The hindwing is narrow and only about two-thirds the length of the forewing. It is more-or-less concolorous with the forewing and has a prominent concolorous fringe.

This species is somewhat distinctive in lacking dark transverse bands on the forewing as seen in certain other blastobasids. We recommend using a combination of external maculation and genitalia to obtain a confident identification.

DISTRIBUTION: *Blastobasis floridella* appears to be restricted to Florida, and perhaps adjoining areas in the Panhandle and Gulf Coast. It was recently discovered in coastal communities in North Carolina. As of 2025, we only have two site records from Fort Macon State Park and Carolina Beach State Park.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Adults in Florida have been documented from February through May and from October and November. As of 2025, our very limited records are from mid-August and mid-September.

HABITAT: Specimens in North Carolina have been found in coastal dune communities.

FOOD: Dietz (1910) described this species from four museum specimens that were labeled as emerging from a female cone of Coontie (*Zamia integrifolia*). This species is not present in North Carolina and other hosts are likely used.

OBSERVATION METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR SNR [S1-S2?]

STATE PROTECTION:

COMMENTS: *Blastobasis floridella* was previously only known from Florida, but we now have two site records from North Carolina as of 2025. These may reflect a northern disjunction group. Both site records are from state parks where this species is protected.