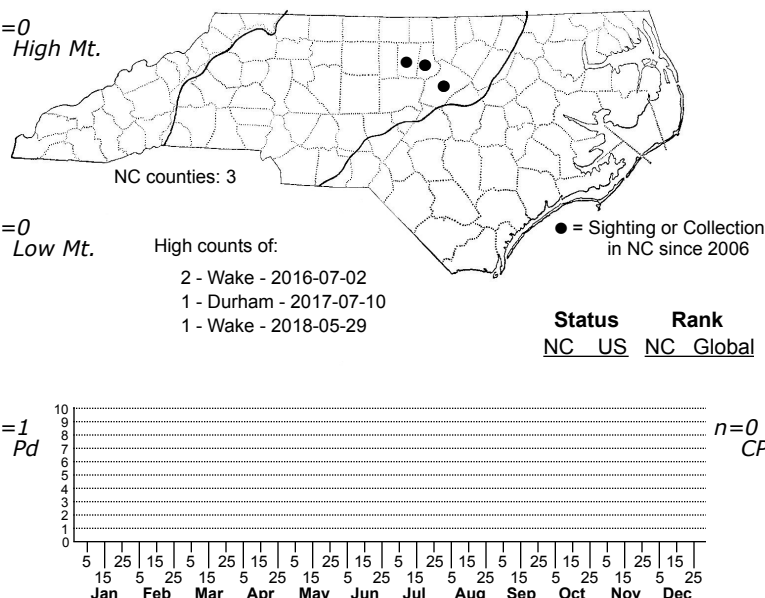
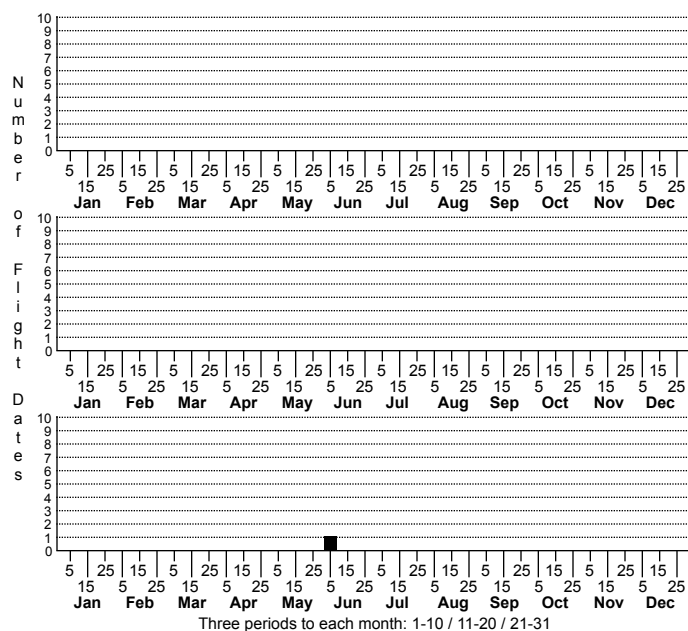


# *Coleophora ostryae* None



FAMILY: Coleophoridae SUBFAMILY: Coleophorinae TRIBE:

TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS: The genus *Coleophora* is one of the most taxonomically challenging groups in North America. With only a few exceptions, most species cannot be identified based on photographs or external characters. The shape of the larval cases and host plants are very useful in identifying species, and high-quality dissections of genitalia are essential to recognize the majority of species. There are numerous species complexes with many undescribed species, and the taxonomy of Nearctic species remains largely unresolved. Here we treat forms that feed on American Hop Hornbeam as *C. ostryae*, with the understanding that these may represent several closely related forms.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Heinrich (1914)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: McDunnough (1946a); Eiseman (2019)

ID COMMENTS: The following is based in part on the description by Heinrich (1914) for *Coleophora carpinella*. The labial palp is grayish white and tinged with reddish brown. The antenna is slightly thickened and reddish brown on the basal fourth. The remainder is white with distinct deep brown annulations. The face and head are brownish ochreous and shade to white on the sides. The forewing is deep reddish brown with darker dustings in the apical portion. There is a white streak along the costa from the base to the apex that narrows apically. In some specimens the streak is only faintly visible beyond the first third. The cilia shades from reddish brown on the apical margin to lead gray dorsally. The hindwing is dull steel gray, with the cilia steel gray along the costal margin, and lead gray along the dorsal margin. The abdomen is brown and dusted with grayish white above and beneath. The legs are light brown outwardly, and the tarsi are annulated with darker brown. The adults resemble those of certain other *Coleophora* (e.g., *C. limosipennella*) and are best identified by using genitalic characters or molecular markers (barcoding). The case shape, in combination with the host plant and/or reared adults, is also sufficient for identification.

DISTRIBUTION: The range extends from the northeastern states and adjoining areas of Canada, then westward to Indiana and Kentucky, and southward to Florida. As of 2021, our records are from the eastern Piedmont.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Adults have been found from May through August in areas outside of North Carolina. As of 2021, we have larval records from late May through July.

HABITAT: The host plants occur in a variety of hardwood forests that range from stream margins and bottomland forests, to rich, mesic slopes and cove forests.

FOOD: The primary hosts appear to be American Hop-hornbeam (*Ostrya virginiana*) and American Hornbeam (*Carpinus caroliniana*). There are also records of this species using Pignut Hickory (*Carya glabra*) and Bitternut Hickory (*C. cordiformis*) that appear to be valid (McDunnough, 1946a; Eiseman, 2019).

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights. We recommend searching for the cases and evidence of feeding on Hop Hornbeam or other hosts during the spring and rearing the adults.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR SNR [S1S3]

STATE PROTECTION:

COMMENTS: We have only three records as of 2021 that reflect the efforts of Tracy Feldman to document leafminers in the state. Additional information is needed on the distribution and abundance of this species within the state before we can assess its conservation status.