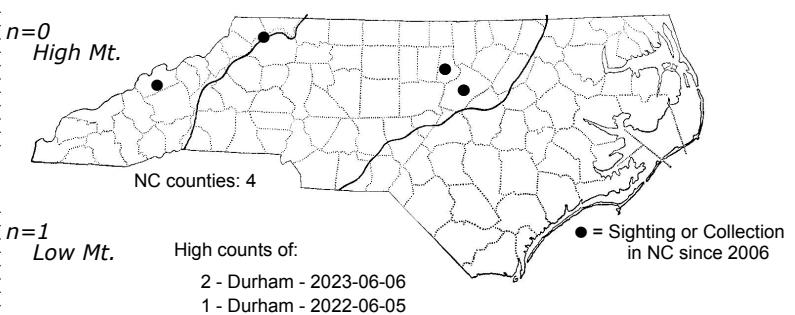
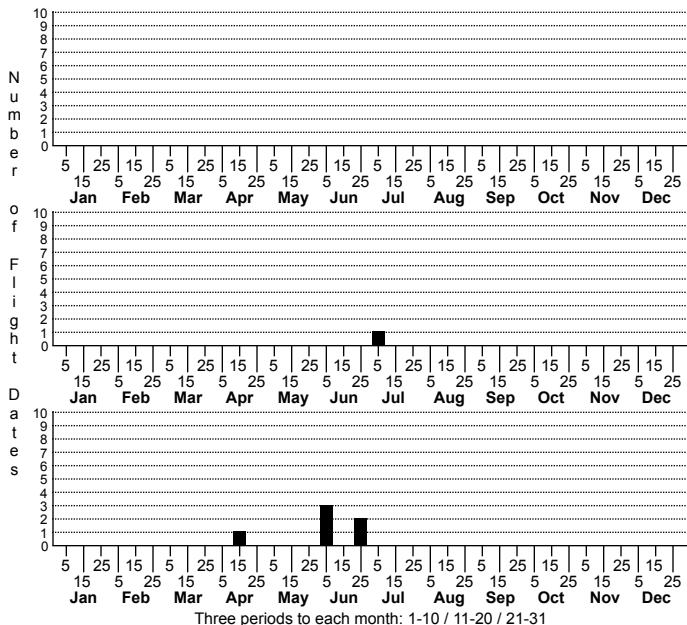


Perimede ricina None



FAMILY: Cosmopterigidae SUBFAMILY: Chrysopeliinae TRIBE: [Chrysopeliini]
TAXONOMIC COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Beadle and Leckie (2012)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Hodges (1978)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: <i>Perimede</i> species in eastern North America are very similar and are often best identified by using genitalia and other structural features. The following description is based on that of Hodges (1962b). The labial palps, antennae and thorax are all fuscous-brown. The forewing is also predominantly fuscous-brown, with four relatively large black spots that are preceded by a few white scales. These are found at one-third the wing length on the fold, at one-half the wing length on the middle of wing, at two-thirds the wing length on the middle of wing, and a relatively large one at the apex. Both a costal and a dorsal patch of white scales are usually present at three-fourths the wing length. The fringe is concolorous with the forewing except for the outer half along the outer margin (below the apex), which is white and best seen in spread specimens. The hindwing is fuscous-brown, with a dark-brown apex and a buff-brown fringe.

<i>Perimede ricina</i> is very similar and often requires dissection for a positive identification. In North Carolina specimens, <i>P. ricina</i> tends to be a shade lighter in overall coloration, and often has both a costal and a dorsal patch of white scales at three-fourths the wing length (versus only a costal patch for <i>P. erransella</i>). The former also often has a row of two or three small spots of white scales that extend from the apical black spot towards both the tornus and the costa (versus only towards the tornus in <i>P. erransella</i>). These features are often reduced or missing in specimens, which hampers identification based on photographs alone.

DISTRIBUTION: <i>Perimede ricina</i> is found in the eastern US and in adjoining areas of southern Ontario and Quebec. In the US the range extends from Massachusetts and vicinity westward through the Great Lakes region to Illinois and Wisconsin, and southward to West Virginia, eastern Kentucky, Tennessee and North Carolina. Geographic isolates occur farther south in Florida and perhaps elsewhere, but need verification using genitalia. As of 2025, all of our records are from the Piedmont and Blue Ridge.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults mostly fly from April through September in different areas of the range, with a seasonal peak in June through August. As of 2025, our very limited records are from mid-April through early-July.

HABITAT: Our records are mostly from areas with mesic or bottomland forests, as well as semi-wooded residential neighborhoods.

FOOD: The hosts are apparently unknown.

OBSERVATION METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR [S2S3].

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

COMMENTS: