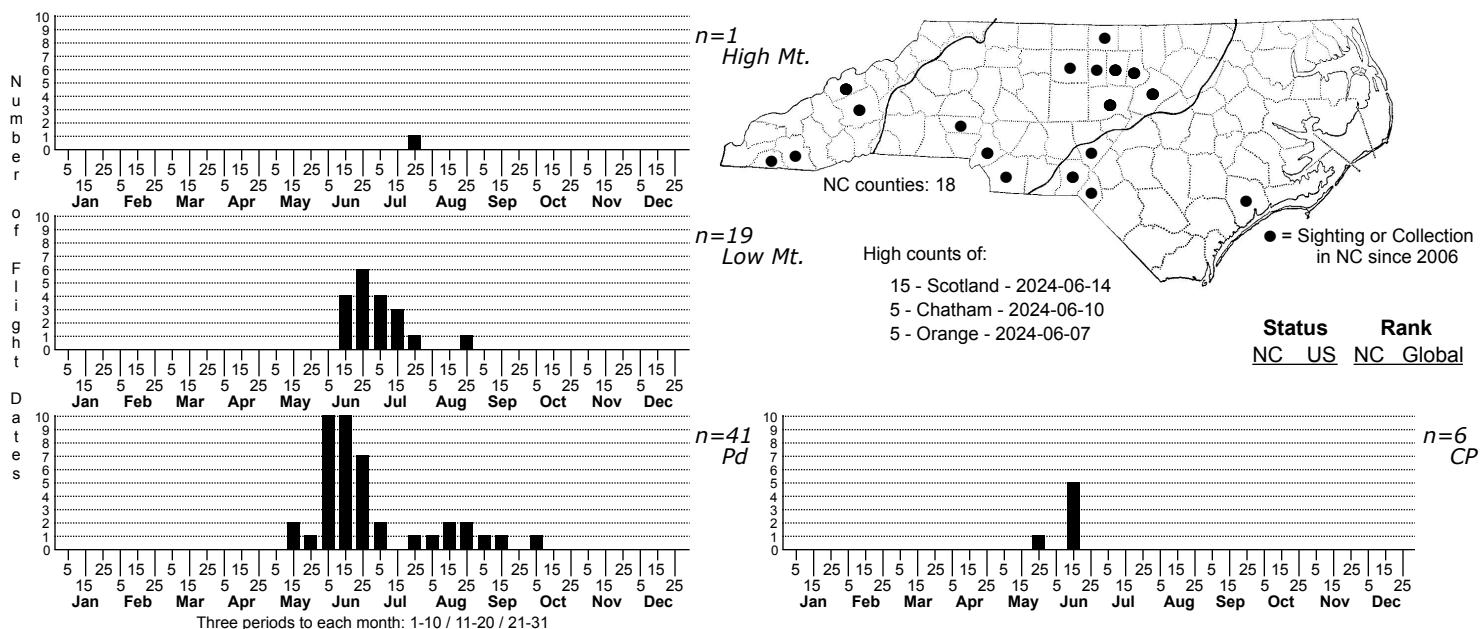


# *Untomia albistrigella* None



FAMILY: Gelechiidae SUBFAMILY: Anacampsinae TRIBE:

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: *<u>Untomia</u>* is a small genus of New World moths, with nine described species that are found from Canada southward to Ecuador and Columbia.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1923)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The following description is based on that of Chambers (1872, p. 171). Almost every part of this small moth is brown, including the head, thorax, palps, antennae, and wings. The labial palp is strongly recurved and extends to the thorax. The second joint of the labial palp is brush-like and slightly thickened towards the apex, while the third segment is conspicuously narrower. The forewing is dark brown except for a small oblique white costal streak just before the apex that terminates before reaching the middle of the wing. An opposing streak is on the dorsal margin, but is sometimes missing or reduced to a faint broken line of whitish scales that projects towards the apex. In addition to these, a few indistinct whitish scales or small spots are sometimes evident near the apex. The cilia are pale fuscous and have a dark brown marginal line before their middle. The hindwing is light brown, and the legs are brown with pale annulations on the tarsi. Live specimens also have red eyes.

DISTRIBUTION: *<u>Untomia albistrigella</u>* is found in eastern North America, including extreme southern Ontario and much of the eastern US. The range extends from southern New York and New Jersey southward to Florida, and westward to central Texas, central Oklahoma, western Kentucky, Illinois, and southern Michigan. As of 2022, we have scattered records from all three physiographic regions.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Adults have been found from February to October in areas outside of North Carolina, with a seasonal peak in June and July. As of 2021, we have records from mid-May to early October, with most between mid-May and early July. Most populations in North Carolina appear to be univoltine.

HABITAT: The preferred habitat is undocumented. Our records are mostly from semi-wooded residential neighborhoods.

FOOD: The hosts are unknown.

OBSERVATION METHODS: The adults occasional come to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR SU

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

COMMENTS: We currently do not have sufficient information on the distribution and abundance of this species within the state to assess its conservation status.