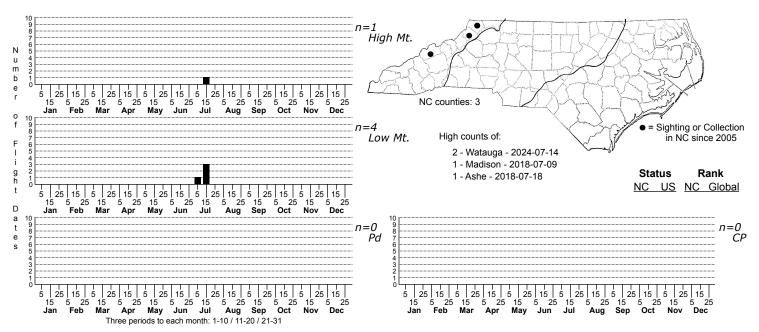
Dichomeris furia None



FAMILY: Gelechiidae SUBFAMILY: Dichomeridinae TRIBE: TAXONOMIC COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Hodges (1986)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: <i>Dichomeris furia</i> is best identified by the forewing patterning that consists of a brownish-yellow ground color that is overlain by two dark-brown marks. The most conspicuous is a broad, angulated blotch that extends from the wing base along the inner margin before turning inward at about one-third the wing length and terminating near the center. The second is a broad band of similar color, and often with a bluish caste, that fills the subterminal region of the wing. A pair of small dark-brown spots is also often evident between these two marks. The hindwing tends to be uniformly light brown with a slightly lighter-colored fringe.

The labial palp is yellowish-orange with a well-developed scale tuft of similar color that becomes pale yellowish-white apically. The frons is pale-brown or orangish-brown in front of the eyes, while the vertex and occiput are pale yellowish-gray above the eyes and slightly darker medially (Hodges, 1986). The antenna is mostly medium to dark-gray above, while the thorax is predominantly grayish-brown to orangish-brown. The legs are predominantly dark grayish-brown.

<i><i>Dichomeris furia</i> can be confused with <i>D. laetitia</i>, but the latter has a somewhat different-shaped dark mark on the wing base that does not touch the inner margin, a dark tuft on the labial palp, and a less-conspicuous subterminal band that is gray rather than dark brown. Worn specimens of <i>D. furia</i> often have a gray subterminal band due to wear, but the yellowish-orange palp should help to distinguish these from <i>D. laetitia</i> <i>Dichomeris furia</i> also resembles <i>D. bilobella</i> and <i>D. setosella</i> but these two have a triangular-shaped bulge on the basal blotch, along with heavy dark dusting on the apical half of the forewing. Highly worn specimens of all of these species can be identified using genitalia.

DISTRIBUTION: <i>Dichomeris furia</i> is found in eastern North America from Connecticut and vicinity westward through the Great Lakes region of the US and Ontario to Illinois and Wisconsin. The range extends southward to southwestern Missouri, and through the Appalachian region to western North Carolina and northern Georgia. As of 2025, all of our records are from the Blue Ridge, and mostly from elevations below 4,000'.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults fly in July and August throughout the range. As of 2025, our records are all from July.

HABITAT: This species is generally associated with open or partially wooded habitats with sunny openings that support composites and other herbaceous species.

FOOD: Larval host plants are unknown but are probably composites (Hodges, 1986).

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: