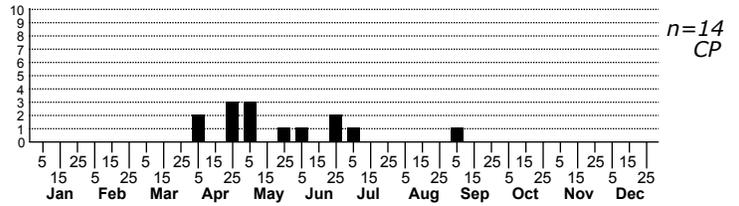
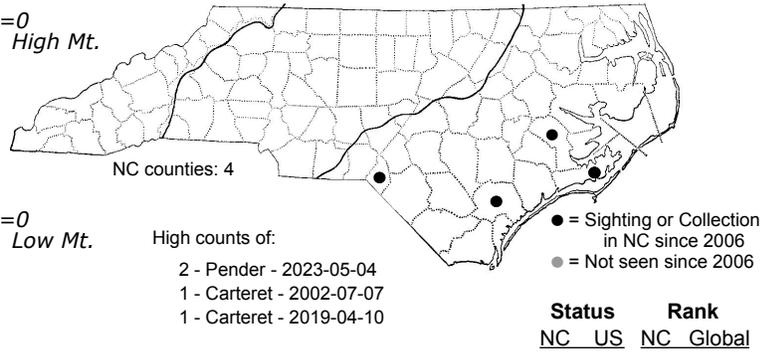


*Dichomeris xanthoa* None



FAMILY: Gelechiidae SUBFAMILY: Dichomerinae TRIBE:

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: *Dichomeris* is a large genus with several hundred species that occur throughout the world. Hodges (1986) recognized 74 species in North America north of Mexico, with 19 species groups. Most are leaf-tiers and they use a taxonomically diverse array of plant hosts, including members of 18 families of plants in North America. As of 2025, North Carolina has 35 documented species, and at least one undescribed species from the Sandhills.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Hodges (1986)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: *Dichomeris xanthoa* has a two-toned appearance with the forewing having a pale-yellow to cream-colored costal band that extends from the wing base to near the apex, and an adjoining broad, toothed, dark-brown band that extends from the base to the outer margin. The pale band abruptly narrows towards the apex and terminates just before reaching it. The dark band commonly has three or four small teeth that project into the pale band; these occur from around three-fourths the wing length to near the wing base. The head is pale-yellow to cream-colored above, but becomes grayish towards the sides. The thorax is dark-brown, and the palps are uniformly yellowish white (Hodges, 1986).

*Dichomeris xanthoa* might be confused with *D. bolize* since both have the pale band terminating before reaching the apex. They can be distinguished by the latter having only two teeth that are restricted to the distal half of the dark band, and palps and scale tufts that have conspicuous, reddish-brown scales.

DISTRIBUTION: *Dichomeris xanthoa* has been found at scattered locations across the eastern and central North America, including North Carolina, Florida, Mississippi, Tennessee, Illinois, Indiana, Nebraska, southeastern Alberta and Manitoba.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT: North Carolina records are from xeric to somewhat mesic habitats, including coastal scrub and maritime forests, xeric Sandhills communities, Longleaf Pine savannas, and Coastal dune grasslands.

FOOD: The larval host plants are apparently unknown (Hodges, 1986).

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: