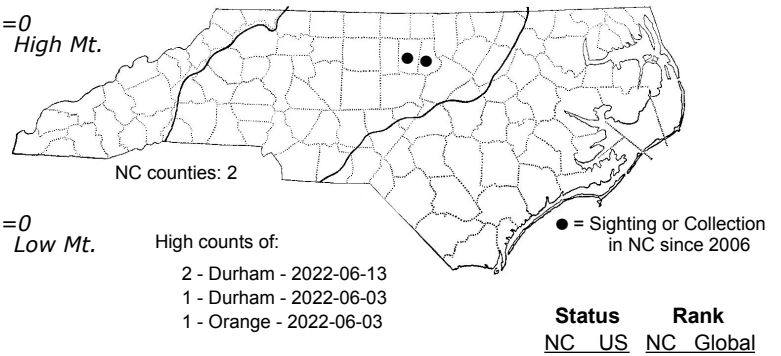
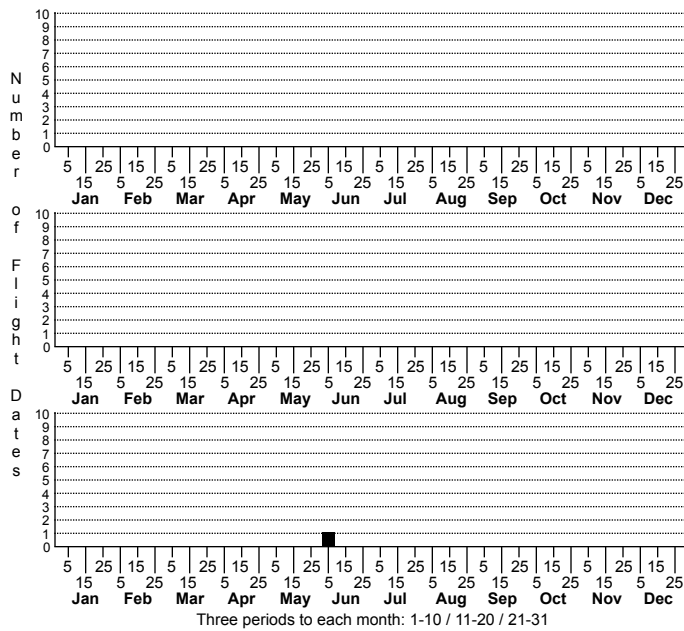


Cycloplasis panicifoliella None



FAMILY: Unassigned Apoditrysia SUBFAMILY: TRIIBE:
TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1923)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: Eiseman (2022)

ID COMMENTS: This is a small, but distinctive micromoth that has brownish forewings with a violet sheen and a single silvery fascia at around one-third the wing length. The adults characteristically rest with the hindlimbs raised. The following is based on the description by Forbes (1923). The head and thorax are lead-colored, while the antenna is brown with silver towards the base. The forewing is umber brown with a more or less violet sheen, and has a broad, straight, bright silvery fascia at about one-third the wing length. The apical half of the forewing is often faintly suffused with silver, especially towards the costa. The forewing fringe and hindwing are violet brown, while the hindwing fringe is fuscous. The hindlegs have prominent whorls of elongated spines and are held up and out when an individual is resting. This species is very similar to *Cycloplasis immaculata*, but the latter lacks the silvery band on the basal third of the forewing.

DISTRIBUTION: The range is poorly documented, but likely includes a large portion of the eastern US and adjoining areas of Ontario. Scattered records from the eastern US extend from New York, Massachusetts and Vermont southward to Florida, and westward to Texas, Arkansas and Illinois. As of 2024, we have only two site records and both are from the eastern Piedmont.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Local populations in the north appear to produce two broods per year, with larvae first present in June and early-July, then gain in late-summer (Forbes, 1923; Eiseman, 2022; Microleps.org). Larvae have been found in January in Florida. As of 2024, our one record of an occupied mine is from June.

HABITAT:

FOOD: Larvae feed on grasses, including species of *Dichanthelium* and *Lasiacis* that are both in tribe Paniceae (Robinson et al., 2010; Eiseman, 2022; Feldman, 2022). The known host include Deer-tongue Witchgrass (*Dichanthelium clandestinum*) and Variable Witchgrass (*Dichanthelium commutatum*) (Eiseman, 2023). In North Carolina, a larva has been reared from Variable Witchgrass.

OBSERVATION_METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR S2S4

STATE PROTECTION:

COMMENTS: