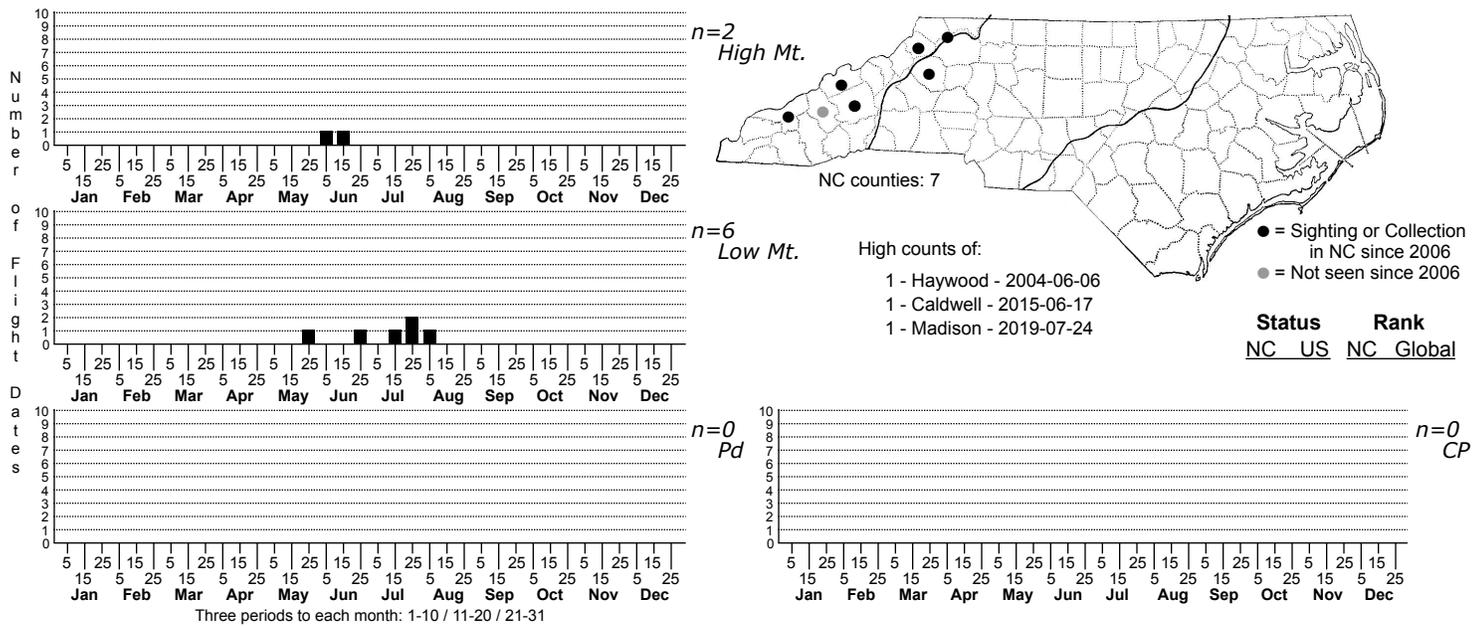


Schreckensteinia festaliella Blackberry Skeletonizer Moth



FAMILY: Schreckensteiniidae SUBFAMILY: [Schreckensteiniinae] TRIBE: [Schrecksteiniini]
 TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:
 ONLINE PHOTOS:
 TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:
 TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: *Schreckensteinia festaliella* is a small moth that has a long, narrow wing and a hindlimb with two pairs of prominent, elongated spines. One or both legs are elevated nearly perpendicular to the body when an individual is resting. The head and thorax have a metallic bronzy-brown hue, while the antenna is brown. The forewing ground color varies from light olivaceous-brown to medium-brown and has a slight golden iridescence. The wing is marked with two dark-brown longitudinal streaks. The streaks begin near the wing base and gradually slant towards the inner margin and center of the wing to about three-fifths the wing length from the base, then curve gently towards the apex. The streak that is closer to the costa often has a diffuse dark spot or area with heavy dark dusting at around three-fifths. The costa and base of the wing are also suffused with dark-brown coloration. Specimens in North Carolina that have a light ground color have the streaks well demarcated, but the streaks are often masked to varying degrees in darker specimens. The hindwing is more-or-less concolorous with the forewing, and the hindlimbs have prominent, bristle-like spines. *Schreckensteinia festaliella* resembles *S. erythriella*, but the latter lacks the longitudinal streaks in the forewing.

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.
 FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.
 HABITAT:

FOOD: Larvae feed on blackberries and raspberries (*Rubus* spp.) (Forbes, 1923; Schaffner, 1959; Ferguson, 1975; Pohl et al., 2005; Robinson et al., 2023). In North Carolina, there is a BugGuide record (J. Anderson, 2011) of a cocoon on the non-native species Wineberry (*Rubus phoenicolasius*).

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: