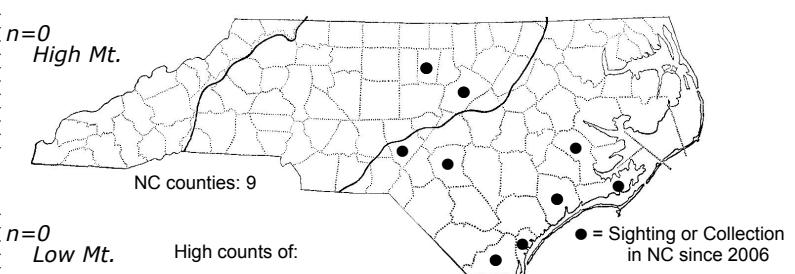
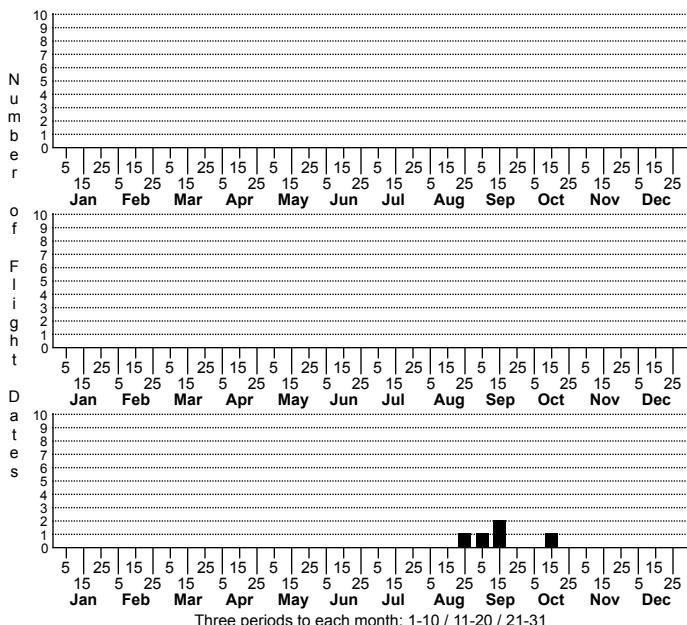


# *Nemapogon rileyi* Riley's Nemapogon



FAMILY: Tineidae SUBFAMILY: Nemapogoninae TRIBE:

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: *Nemapogon* is a genus with approximately 70 named species that reach their greatest diversity in the Old World. There are 17 described species in North America.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Leckie and Beadle, 2018

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Dietz (1905)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The following is based primarily on Dietz's (1905) original description of the species. The head and thorax are dark brown and the antenna pale ochreous fuscous. The ground color of the forewing is a deep rich golden brown and traversed by white longitudinal lines. The extreme costa and dorsal margins are pale, and there are two or more narrow white lines along the costal margin that interconnect to varying degrees. Two other narrow white lines arise from middle of base and run parallel almost to the apical cilia where they converge with a curved white line that originates on the dorsal margin near the beginning of the dorsal cilia. These continue to the cilia where they split into two white lines. The terminal fringe is whitish on the dorsal half, and dark brown on the apical half, with two white lines within. A thin line of scattered, brown scales occurs in the middle of the fringe. The hindwing and cilia are gray. This very distinctively marked species is unmistakable.

DISTRIBUTION: *Nemapogon rileyi* is found across much of the eastern US and adjoining areas of southern Canada (Ontario). The range extends from the northeastern states south and westward to Florida, southern Alabama and Texas. Farther north, populations occur as far west as Wisconsin. Populations are most common in the Coastal Plain and lower Piedmont, and relatively rare in many interior regions. As of 2020, our records for North Carolina are from the Coastal Plain and Piedmont.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Adults have been observed during every month of the year, but are most common from April-July. As of 2020, our records extend from late March through September.

HABITAT: The habitat is poorly documented. Many *Nemapogon* species utilize fungi that grow on dead and decaying hardwoods, and this species is likely affiliated with habitats with hardwood trees.

FOOD: Dietz (1905) noted that *N. rileyi* was reared by a colleague from fungus, but the exact fungal host was not reported.

OBSERVATION METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR SU

STATE PROTECTION:

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