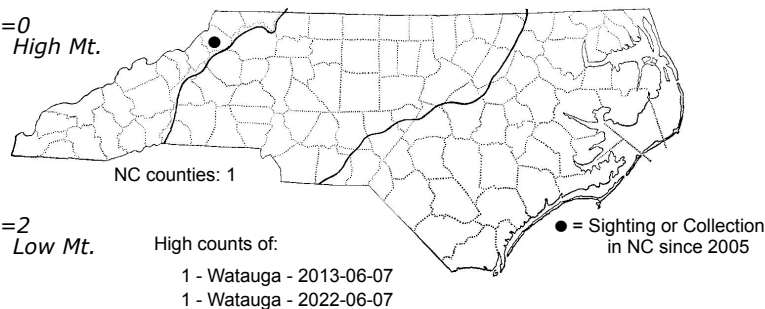
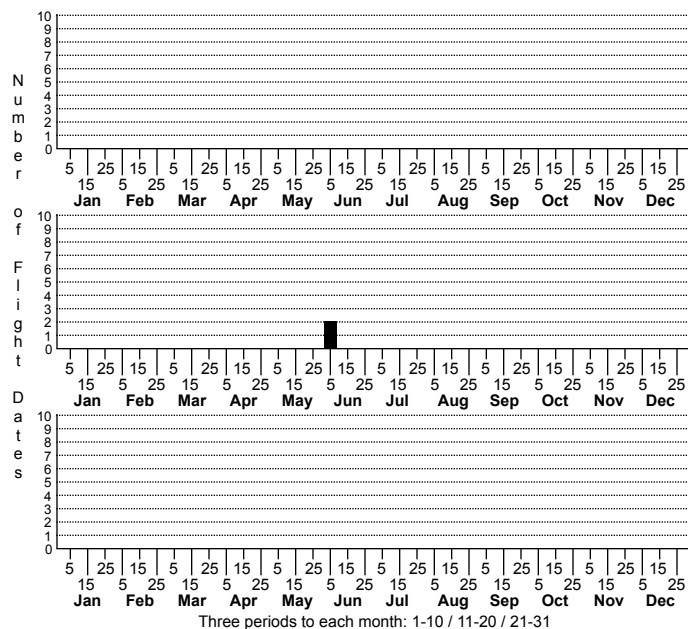


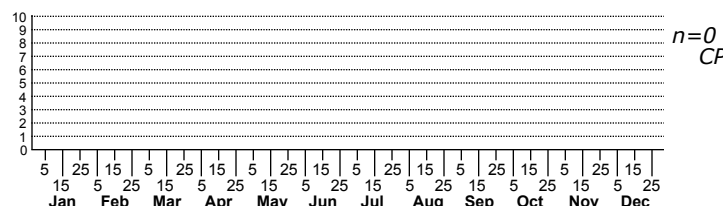
Olethreutes monetiferanum Buckeye Olethreutes



High counts of:

- 1 - Watauga - 2013-06-07
- 1 - Watauga - 2022-06-07

Status Rank
NC US NC Global



FAMILY: Tortricidae SUBFAMILY: Olethreutinae TRIBE: Olethreutini

TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS: *Olethreutes* is a large genus with over 130 recognized species worldwide. North America has around 80 recognized species, with at least 37 species occurring in North Carolina. Some species are very difficult to identify due to interspecific similarities in color and forewing pattern and only subtle differences in genitalia (Gilligan et al., 2008). In many instances, knowledge of the host plant is essential for a confident determination. All of the Nearctic species are leaf-tiers or leaf-rollers on deciduous trees and shrubs.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: Gibson and Merkel (2007)

ID COMMENTS: This is a distinctively marked *Olethreutes* with a brown to reddish-brown ground color on the forewing that is ocellated with numerous straw-colored spots. The spots have a faint reddish-brown wash in the center, and tend to shift from being mostly rounded on the basal half of the wing, to more elongated on the apical half. The costa has a series of six or seven elongated pale spots along its length that resembles the elongated spots on the remainder of the forewing. The head tuft and thoracic tuft vary from light-brown or pale to reddish-brown, while the fringe is reddish-brown with a narrow basal line that is darker than the overall ground of the fringe. The hindwing is brown with a slightly lighter fringe.

DISTRIBUTION: *Olethreutes monetiferanum* is a seemingly uncommon species that occurs in the eastern US. The range is poorly documented, with scattered specimens observed as of 2024 in Wisconsin, Iowa, Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky, Virginia, eastern Tennessee, western North Carolina, Alabama, Louisiana and northeastern Texas. As of 2024, we have only two records, and both are from Watauga County in the northern Blue Ridge.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been observed from April through June in different areas of the range. As of 2024, both of our records are from early-June.

HABITAT: This species is most abundant in limestone areas of central Kentucky and southwestern Ohio, and generally appears to use rich sites with circumneutral soils elsewhere. Our two records as of 2024 are both from mesic hardwood sites.

FOOD: Larva feed on buckeyes, including Ohio Buckeye (*Aesculus glabra*) and Yellow Buckeye (*A. flava*; Gibson and Merkel, 2007).

OBSERVATION_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights, and are sometimes active diurnally (Gilligan et al., 2008).

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: [GNR] S1S3

STATE PROTECTION: Has no legal protection, although permits are required to collect it on state parks and other public lands.

COMMENTS: *Olethreutes monetiferanum* appears to be rare in North Carolina where we have only two site records, with both from Watauga County.