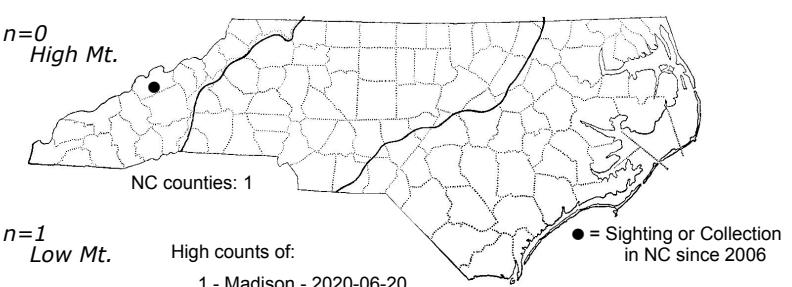
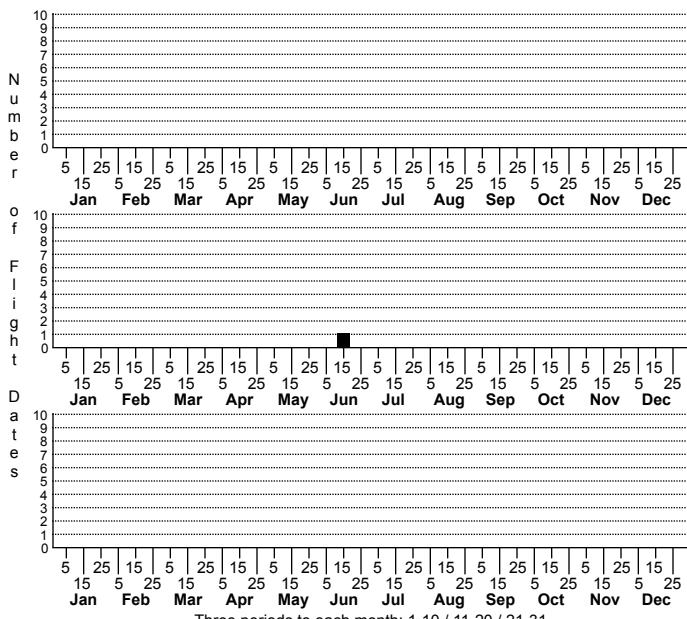


Olethreutes clavana No common name



Status	Rank		
NC	US	NC	Global

n=0
CP

FAMILY: Tortricidae SUBFAMILY: Olethreutinae TRIBE:

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: <i>Olethreutes</i> 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: Miller (1979).

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: <i>Olethreutes clavana</i> has markings that are typical of many members of the genus, with the marks margined with a line of paler scales. The medial fascia of the forewing has three posterior projections that include a patch along the inner margin and two teeth that project rearward. All three are usually connected at their bases to produce a fascia that spans the entire width of the forewing. The costal tooth is curved and short, with a somewhat blunt tip, while the middle tooth is irregular and broadly rounded to acute at the tip. The patch along the inner margin progressively narrows and is often fused to the subtornal patch along the inner margin that progressively widens posteriorly. An elongated postmedial bar is also present as seen in most <i>Olethreutes</i> species.

The marks on the forewing typically vary from dull olive-brown to blackish-brown, while the areas that surround the larger patches and the medial fascia have lustrous gray or leaden-gray scaling. The dark forms have a suffusion of black scales on the thorax, near the middle of the costa, and as a broad, diffuse band along the inner margin, but the dusting is usually not sufficiently heavy to conceal the underlying median fascia and larger blotches on the wing. The basal half of the costa has a series of pale strigulae that are often partially fused to form a zone of pale wash, while the apical half of the costa has a series of alternating pale strigulae and darker lines in between that project towards the outer margin. The fringe has a blackish basal line, while the hindwing is brown with a lighter fringe that has a thin, dark basal line. The palps vary from whitish to tawny on the lower segments, while the terminal segment is black with white on the extreme tip.

This species resembles <i>O. nigrum</i> in having dark phenotypes with black shading along the dorsal margin of the forewing, but the shading is not as pronounced as in the dark forms of <i>O. nigrum</i>. In addition, the dark form of <i>O. clavana</i> has blackish-brown to olive-brown fasciae and considerable lustrous gray scaling in the interfascial areas. In contrast, the dark forms of <i>O. nigrum</i> are brighter, with more pink than gray interfascial scaling, and with reddish-brown to pale-olive fascial markings (Gilligan et al., 2008). Individuals of the two species without black dorsal shading are difficult to separate, but those of <i>O. clavana</i> tend to be golden brown versus blackish brown in <i>O. nigrum</i>. The genitalia of the two species are very similar (see below). <i>Olethreutes mysteriana</i> is also similar but is smaller on average (7.0-8.5 mm versus 7.0-10.0 mm; Gilligan et al., 2008) and has yet to be documented in North Carolina. It can easily be distinguished from small specimens of <i>O. clavana</i> by examining the male genitalia.

DISTRIBUTION: <i>Olethreutes clavana</i> is found in eastern North America, where the range extends from Illinois and Indiana northeastward through southern Ontario and Quebec to New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine. The range extends southward to Pennsylvania, northern Virginia, West Virginia, and eastern Kentucky. As of 2024, we have a single record from Madison County in the Blue Ridge the may represent a southern disjunct from the main range that occurs farther north.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been observed from June through August in different areas of the range. As of 2024, our one record is from 20 June.

HABITAT: Local populations are generally associated with mesic hardwoods; our only record as of 2024 was from a semi-wooded residential neighborhood.

FOOD: Miller (1979) reported one specimen that was reared from a <i>Corylus</i> (hazelnut).

OBSERVATION METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights. More information is needed on the host species and larval life history in North Carolina and elsewhere.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR[S1S2]

STATE PROTECTION:

COMMENTS: This species appears to be rare in the state, with a single record from Madison County as of 2024 that may be part of a population that is disjunct from the main range farther north.