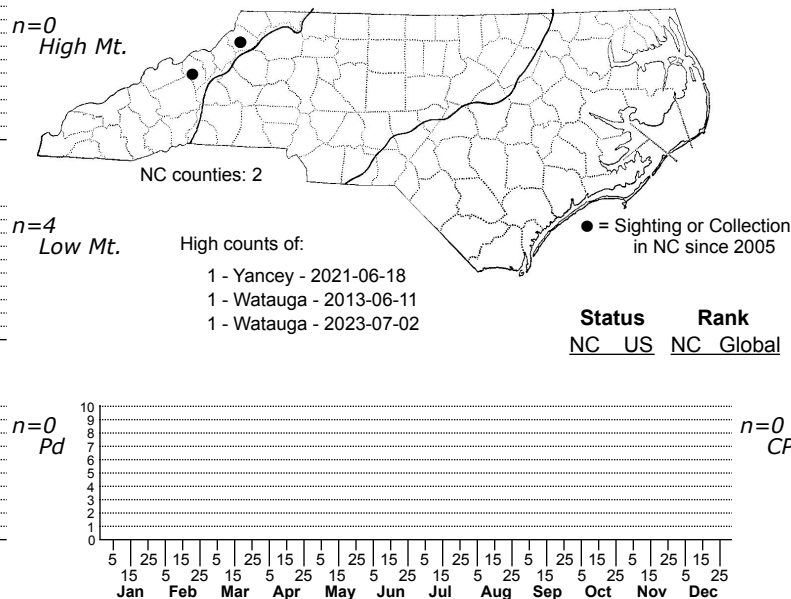
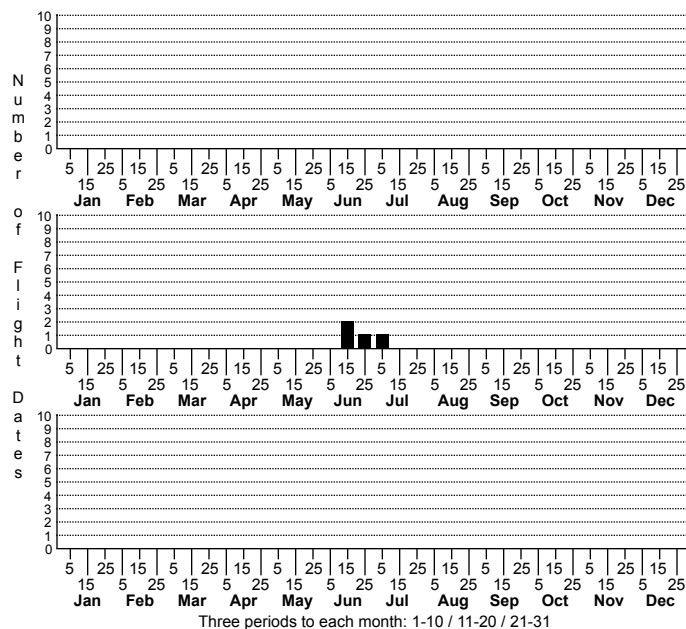


Olethreutes ochrosuffusum None



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: Heinrich (1923).

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: Braun (1951)

ID COMMENTS: *Olethreutes ochrosuffusana* is somewhat distinctive due to its overall yellowish-brown to burnt sienna coloration. The following description is based primarily on that of Heinrich (1923). The antenna is yellowish-brown with the upper surface of the first and second segments blotched with fuscous. The palp is a sordid whitish-ocherous except for the dark brown terminal segment, which has the extreme tip whitish. The second segment has one or two fuscous spots on the outer side and a dusting of fuscous at the apex of the tuft. The head and thorax, including the thoracic tuft, are reddish to yellowish-brown.

The forewing ground color varies from light reddish-brown to whitish-pink, with a series of larger patches and marks that are reddish-brown to yellowish-brown, and a shade or two darker than the ground. The major marks include a broad basal patch that begins on the inner margin near the wing base and extends towards the middle of the costa. It often extends far enough to meet a similar-colored, curved, costal tooth that narrows and terminates near the end of the postmedial bar. The elongated postmedial bar projects from the subcostal area at around four-fifths the wing length to the dorsal half of the outer margin, and is often preceded basally by a short, concolorous streak or spot. The only other conspicuous marks are a large pretornal patch along the inner margin, and a small apical spot. The apical half of the costa has four pairs of light-colored costal dashes, while the basal half tends to be a shade lighter than the surrounding ground color and stands out from the darker basal patch. The fringe is pale fuscous with a yellowish or brownish basal line, and the hindwing is pale smoky fuscous with a whitish fringe that has a dark basal band.

DISTRIBUTION: *Olethreutes ochrosuffusum* is endemic to eastern North America where as of 2024 it has been found in Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky and western North Carolina, and as a likely disjunct in the Ozark Uplift of Arkansas and Missouri. As of 2024, we have records from only three sites and all are 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, our records are from mid-June to early-July.

HABITAT: Local populations are typically found in rich hardwood forests.

FOOD: The larvae feed on the leaves of buckeyes (Heinrich, 1926; Braun, 1951; Gibson and Merkle, 2006; Gilligan et al., 2008). The reported hosts include Yellow Buckeye (*Aesculus flava*), Ohio Buckeye (*A. glabra*), and Red Buckeye (*A. pavia*). Yellow Buckeye is presumably the only host that is used in North Carolina.

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

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR [S1S2]

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

COMMENTS: This species appears to be rare in North Carolina where it is at the southern limit of its range. Additional information is needed on its distribution and abundance before we can accurately assess its conservation status within the state.