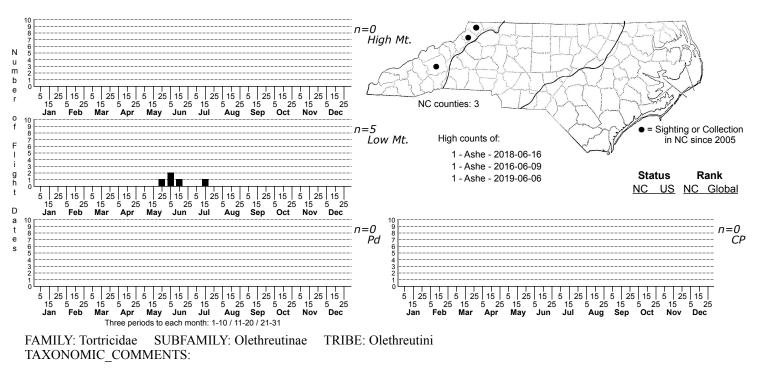
## Hedya chionosema White-spotted Hedya



FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: ONLINE PHOTOS: TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: Chapman and Lienk (1971)

ID COMMENTS: <i>Hedya chionosema</i> is easily distinguished by its overall grayish forewing and large, white costal patch. The forewing has a gray ground color that often has fine, dark striations within, and four darker-gray fasciae or bands. These include, 1) a sub-basal band that extends from the costa and terminates before reaching the inner margin, 2) a complete medial fascia that adjoins a large, white, costal patch just beyond the middle, 3) a subtornal band that terminates near the middle of the wing, and 4) a thin postmedial bar that extends from near the tornus towards the posterior end of the white patch. The costal patch is more-or-less semicircular and usually has a broad zone of blackish dusting around its margin, while the apex has a dark spot. The palps and head often have a reddish tinge to them, while the thorax is marked with light-gray and dark-gray transverse lines. The thoracic tuft varies from dark gray to blackish.

DISTRIBUTION: <i>Hedya chionosema</i> is endemic to eastern North America where the primary range includes southern Canada (Manitoba; Ontario; Quebec; New Brunswick; Nova Scotia), and portions of the US from Maine and other New England states southward to Maryland and West Virginia, and westward to eastern Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin. A few scattered records are also known from western North Carolina, Tennessee, central Georgia, northern Florida, central Louisiana, eastern Oklahoma and Missouri.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been observed from April through August in different areas of the range, with peak seasonal activity commonly in June and July. As of 2024, our records range from early-June through mid-July.

HABITAT: Local populations are often found in forested habitats, along forest edges, or in fragmented landscapes such as semiwooded residential neighborhoods.

FOOD: The larvae appear to mostly specialize on members of the Rosaceae (Heinrich 1926; MacKay 1959; Prentice, 1965; Chapman and Lienk 1971; Godfrey et al. 1987; Brown et al., 2008; Robinson et al., 2010). The reported hosts include serviceberry (<i>Amelanchier</i>), hawthorn (<i>Crataegus</i>), Sweet Crabapple (<i>Malus coronaria</i>), Apple (<i>M. domestica</i>), European pear (<i>Pyrus communis</i>), Northern Red Oak (<i>Quercus rubra</i>) and Mountain-ash (<i>Sorbus</i>). The use of an oak seems suspect and needs further verification.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights. More information is needed on host use and the larval life history in North Carolina.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR[S2S3]

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

COMMENTS: <i>Hedya chionosema</i> appears to be rare in North Carolina where it is restricted to the Blue Ridge.