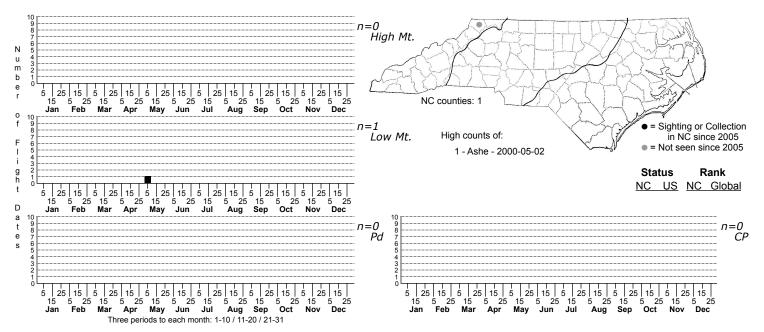
Eucosma awemeana None



FAMILY: Tortricidae SUBFAMILY: Olethreutinae TRIBE: Eucosmini TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS: <i>Eucosma awemeana </i> is a member of the <i>radiatana </i> species group of Wright and Gilligan (2015). This group includes a complex of 9-13 species that have been difficult to resolve due to their overall external appearances, suspected sexual dimorphism in forewing coloration and patterning in some species, and a scarcity of well-defined diagnostic features in the genitalia. Wright and Gilligan (2015) recognized only nine species in North America and relegated four previously recognized species to synonymy.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Wright and Gilligan (2015)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The following is based on descriptions by Kearfott (1907) and Gilligan et al. (2008). The palps, front of the head, and tufts above the eyes are ashy-gray. The thorax is pale clay yellow with a thin dark brown or orangish-brown central line, along with a similar but wider lateral line on each side. The forewing has a pale clay yellow ground color that prevails in the basal half to two-thirds of the wing. The distal portion of the wing is dark orangish brown, and the diagonal streak that extends from the wing base is interrupted or fades medially. The apical third of the costa has a series of irregular tan streaks interspersed between the dark orangish brown coloration. These tend to anastomose and extend inward and terminate before reaching the ocellus. The ocellus is obscure and completely surrounded by the darker coloration of the terminal area. The fringe is blackish-fuscous and divided by one or two thin pale lines, while the hindwing is brownish-fuscous with a lighter fringe. Gilligan et al. (2008) noted that the females are darker overall and smaller than the males. They often have the lighter basal two-thirds infused with orangish-brown.

DISTRIBUTION: <i>Eucosma awemeana</i> is broadly distributed across southern Canada from British Columbia and the Yukon Territory eastward to Nova Scotia. In the US, it occurs from the New England states westward through the Great Lakes region to Wisconsin, and southward mostly through the Appalachian region to eastern Tennessee and western North Carolina. There is one isolated record from central Alabama. As of 2022, our only record is from Ashe County in the northern mountains.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been observed from April through August in different areas of the range, with a seasonal peak in May and June. As of 2022, our one record is from early May.

HABITAT: The preferred habitats are poorly documented.

FOOD: The host plants are unknown but are presumably composites such as goldenrods that are used by other members of this species group.

OBSERVATION METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR [S2-S3]

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

COMMENTS: This species is near the southern limit of its range in western North Carolina and appears to be rare within the state.