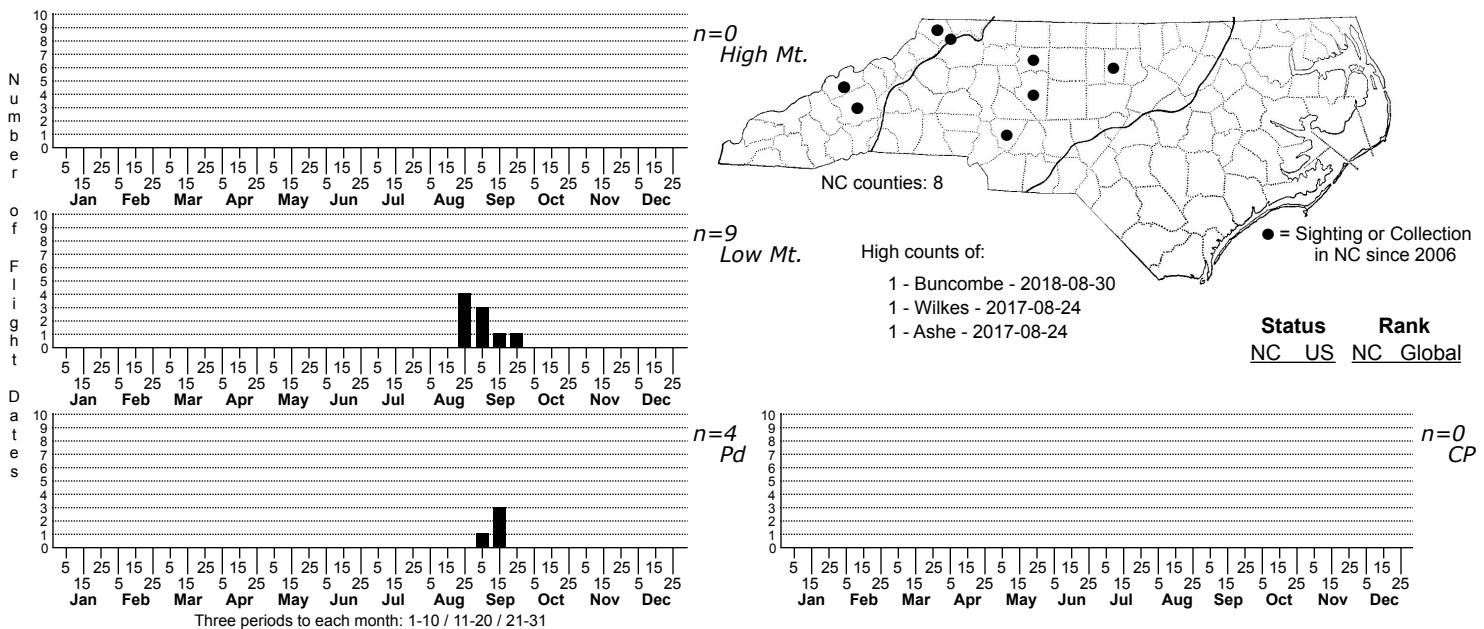


Eucosma ochroterminana Buff-tipped Eucosma



FAMILY: Tortricidae SUBFAMILY: Olethreutinae TRIBE: Eucosmini

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: <i>Eucosma ochroterminana</i> is one of five species with similar genitalia that Wright and Gilligan (2015) recognized as the <i>parmatana</i> species group.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Beadle and Leckie (2012)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Kearfott (1907a); Wright and Gilligan (2015)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: This is a distinctive species that has a light brownish head and a blackish-brown forewing, except for the apical fourth that is mottled with light brownish yellow. The following detailed description is based in part of that of Kearfott (1907a). The head and palps have elongated scales that are light brown, while the antenna is dark brown and lighter towards the base. The patagia is light brown and the thorax light brown with a dark brown streak on the posterior half. The inner three-fourth of the forewing is dull blackish-brown and is flecked with a few brown scales. Faint darker-black lines are often evident, and a few brown scales are present at the extreme base. The apical fourth of the wing and the fringe is light brownish yellow and usually mottled with slightly darker scaling. The ocellus is slightly lighter than the surrounding areas and has two or three horizontal black lines. The hindwing is light smoky brown and becomes lighter towards the base. The fringe is paler, with both a darker and a paler line at the base. The tibiae and tarsi are annulated and streaked with blackish-brown.

DISTRIBUTION: <i>Eucosma ochroterminana</i> occurs primarily in eastern North America, but has been found in southern Canada from Alberta eastward to Prince Edward Island. In the US the range extends from Maine westward through the Great Lakes region to Minnesota, and southward to Oklahoma, Alabama, and Georgia. It is generally absent from much of the southeastern Coastal Plain. As of 2022, all of our records are from the Blue Ridge and Piedmont.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Local populations appear to be univoltine. Specimens have been observed from April through October in different areas of the range, with a seasonal peak in activity from July through September. As of 2022, our records extend from late-August to late-September.

HABITAT: Local populations are typically associated with prairies, old-fields, and other early-successional sites that support goldenrods.

FOOD: Observations of host use are very limited. Putman (1942) observed larvae that were feeding on the flowers of Tall Goldenrod (<i>Solidago altissima</i>).

OBSERVATION METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights. More information is needed on host use in North Carolina.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR SNR [S3S4]

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

COMMENTS: This species uses early successional habitats which are common in North Carolina. Scattered populations have been found throughout the Piedmont and Blue Ridge and populations appear to be secure.