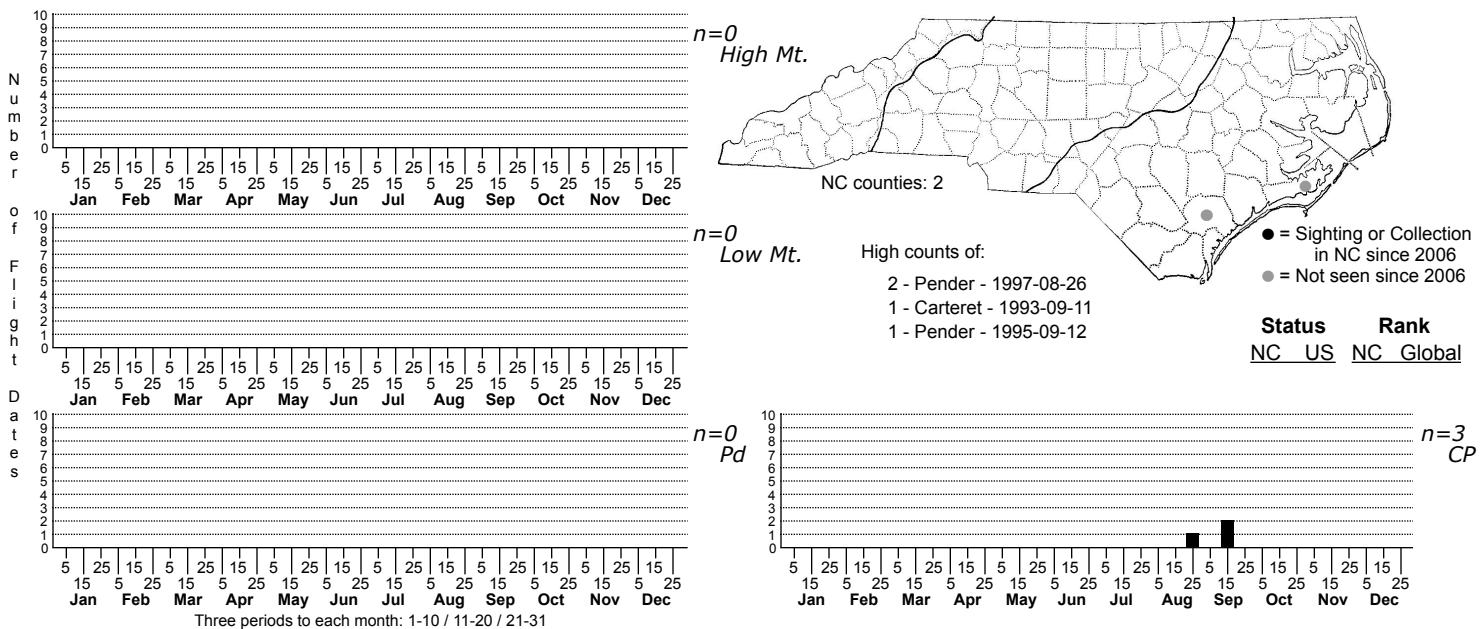


# *Eucosma aquilana* None



FAMILY: Tortricidae SUBFAMILY: TRIBE:  
TAXONOMIC COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Wright and Gilligan (2021)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The following description is based on that of Wright and Gilligan (2021). The frons and vertex are tan and the antenna is blackish brown to tan. The lateral surfaces of the first and second segments of the labial palp is brown to tan, while the third segment is black. The thorax varies from blackish brown to golden brown, and the forewing is mostly uniformly brown with the fasciate markings and interfacial spot barely discernable. The ocellus is bright white, with three variably-expressed black longitudinal streaks, with one on the costal margin and two centrally located. The latter two are sometimes reduced to short dashes or dots. The termen has a narrow band of salt-and-pepper colored scales from the tornus to apex and the fringe is dark gray. The costa has 5-8 grayish strigulae that are inconspicuous, with strigula 9 at the apex being white and prominent. The subcostal area from strigula 5 to the apex is suffused with orange and crossed by gray striae that extend towards the termen. The hindwing is dark grayish brown. Wright and Gilligan (2021) noted that specimens from North Carolina tend to be blackish -- while those from Mississippi and Louisiana are mostly dark gray -- and those from Florida dark gray or pale golden brown.

This recently described species closely resembles *Epilema strenuana*. Wright and Gilligan (2021) note that these two species are best separated by the size and brightness of the ocellus (larger and brighter in *E. aquilana*) and in the color of the third segment of the labial palp (contrastingly black in *E. aquilana* versus concolorous with segments one and two in *E. strenuana*). Structural differences in genitalia can also be used to separate these species.

DISTRIBUTION: The range is poorly documented, but encompasses an area from at least North Carolina southward to Florida and westward to Louisiana (Wright and Gilligan, 2021).

FLIGHT COMMENT: Specimens have been collected in June in Florida and in August and September elsewhere. As of 2022, our records are from late-August through mid-September.

HABITAT: The preferred habitats are poorly documented.

FOOD: The host plants are undocumented.

OBSERVATION METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR SU

STATE PROTECTION:

COMMENTS: We currently do not have sufficient information concerning the host use, habitat preferences, and distribution and abundance of this species to assess its conservation status.