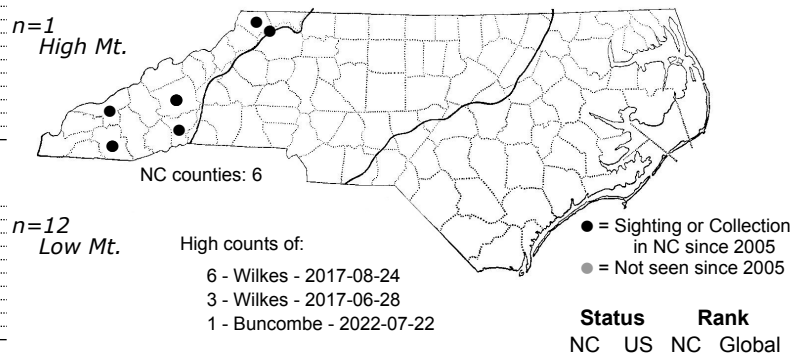
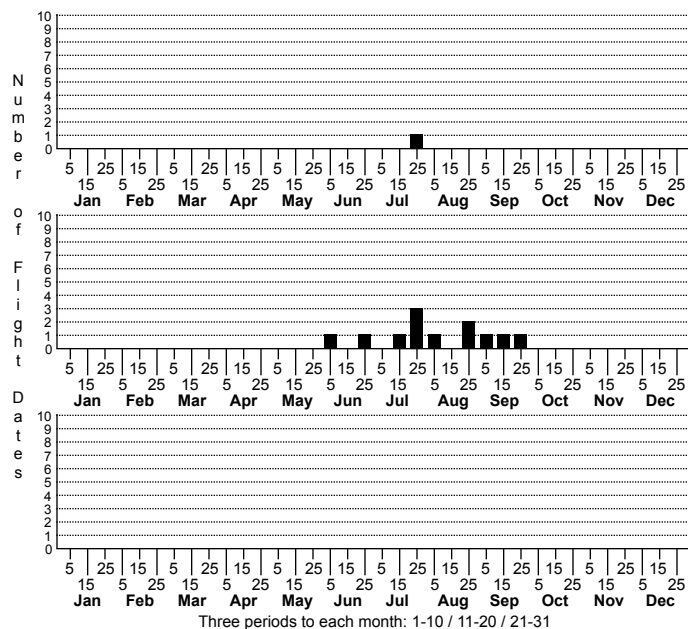


Epiblema gibsoni Gibson's Epiblema



FAMILY: Tortricidae SUBFAMILY: Olethreutinae TRIBE: Eucosmini
TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Wright and Covell (2003)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: In this species the palps, head, thorax, antennae, and most of the forewing are a rich medium brown. The most distinctive mark on the forewing is an immaculate, narrow, bright white, and sharply-edged median spot. The roughly triangular-shaped spot begins on the inner margin and narrows to either a sharp or somewhat rounded point near the middle of the wing. There are four pairs of costal strigulae on the apical half of the wing that are subdued except for a white pair near the apex. The ocellus is also obscure, with gray bands on the lateral margins and a few blackish spots or dashes on a narrow, brownish central field (Wright and Covell, 2003; Wright and Gilligan, 2023). The hindwing is uniformly grayish-brown.

DISTRIBUTION: *Epiblema gibsoni* is found in the eastern U.S. from Iowa southward to Arkansas, and eastward to Alabama, southwestern South Carolina, western North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio and southern Michigan. As of 2024 all of our records are from the Blue Ridge, with most from lower elevation sites.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults fly from June through August in different areas of the range. As of 2024, our records range from early-June through late-September.

HABITAT: Most of our records are from mesic forests or forest edges.

FOOD: The hosts are apparently undocumented.

OBSERVATION_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR[S3]

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

COMMENTS: Populations in North Carolina appear to be restricted to the Blue Ridge and are uncommon.