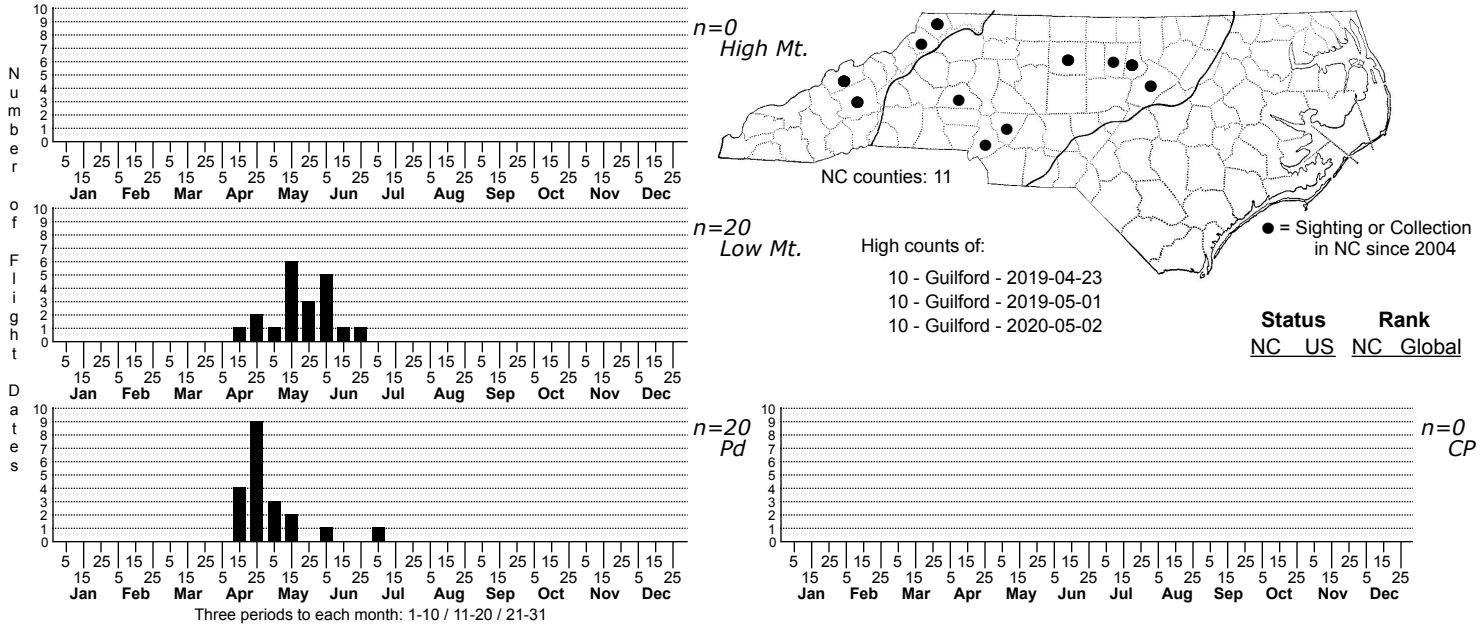
Notocelia rosaecolana Doubleday's Notocelia Moth



FAMILY: Tortricidae SUBFAMILY: Olethreutinae TRIBE: Eucosmini
TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS: Notocelia rosaecolana and N. trimaculana are two species that are difficult to separate based on either wing patterning or genitalia. These species are found in the Old World and one or both were thought to have been introduced into the US where they feed primarily on cultivated roses. Miller et al. (2000) reported that the presence or absence of melanic sex scales on the hindwing of males is a diagnostic trait that can be used to separate the two species. Specimens that they examined from throughout the US all appear to be N. rosaecolana, and N. trimaculana is now assumed to be restricted to the Old World.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:
ONLINE PHOTOS:
TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:
TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The following is based in part on the original description by Doubleday (1850). The antenna, palps, head, thorax, and basal third of the forewing are a rich dark brown and concolorous. The ground of the remaining portion of the forewing is milky white and the interface with the brown basal area is scalloped. The whitish ground on the apical two-thirds of the forewing is overlain with a mixture of lead-colored blotches and brown blotches that often have blackish marks within. The most prominent dark mark is an extensive area of warm brown that extends from the dorsal margin just before the tornus to near the middle of the wing. It typically has a conspicuous blackish subdorsal spot within, along with one or more small blackish dots or dashes near the terminal end. Lead-colored blotches are usually present on both the anterior and posterior sides. A second region of warm brown coloration occurs in the subapical region on the costal two-thirds where it is often intermixed with small amounts of whitish and lead coloration. A group of 2-5 short, black, longitudinal dashes occur at around four-fifths that extend in a stacked series near the middle of the wing. The cilia are mostly fuscous -- but become whitish towards the anal angle -- and the costa is obliquely streaked with brown to brownish-black strigulae. The hindwing and cilia are both pale fuscous.

DISTRIBUTION: Notocelia rosaecolana appears to be native to Europe but has been introduced in other areas including South Korea, Japan, and nearby areas in southeastern China. Populations in the US are presumed to be introduced, and can be found throughout eastern North America and the Pacific Northwest. In the East, the range extends from New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island southwestward through the Great Lakes region to Minnesota, and southward through much of the eastern US to South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and central Tennessee. Populations are rarely encountered in the Coastal Plain. As of 2022, our records are all from the Piedmont and lower elevation sites in the Blue Ridge.

FLIGHT COMMENT: North American populations are univoltine throughout the range, and the adults mostly fly in May and June. As of 2022, our records extend from mid-April through early July, with a seasonal peak in late-April through May.

HABITAT: Local populations are found in association with native or cultivated roses and commonly in disturbed habitats or urban or residential settings.

FOOD: The larvae feed on both native and cultivated roses (Rosa spp.), including Multiflora Rose (R. multiflora). Miller et al. (2000) reported one instance of an adult being reared from Black Locust (Robinia pseudoacacia).

OBSERVATION_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights. More information is needed on host use in North Carolina, particularly the extent to which native roses are used as hosts.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR [SNA]

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

COMMENTS: This species does not appear to be native to North America and does not merit any conservation concerns.