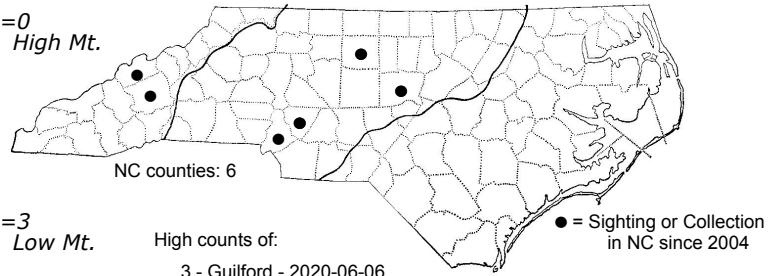
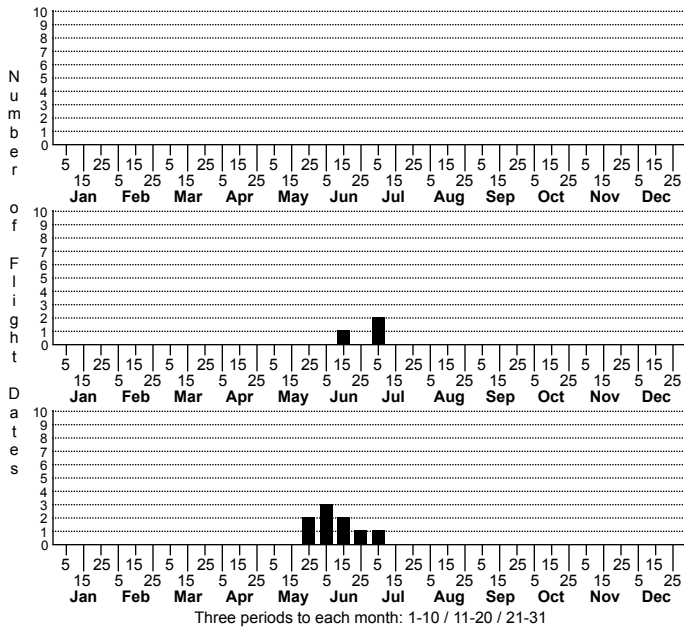


*Proteoteras crescentana* Northern Boxelder Twig Borer Moth



High counts of:  
 3 - Guilford - 2020-06-06  
 1 - Guilford - 2019-05-28  
 1 - Madison - 2019-06-11

Status	Rank
NC	US
NC	Global



FAMILY: Tortricidae SUBFAMILY: Olethreutinae TRIBE: Eucosmini  
 TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: Wong et al. (1983)

ID COMMENTS: The head, thorax, palps and ground color of the forewing vary from greenish gray to light or medium brown and are often dusted with black. The most conspicuous mark is a contrasting black band that runs from the middle of the costa inward, then bends rearward and projects towards the apex (Forbes, 1923). This mark is less wavy and much more sharply marked than the band found in *Proteoteras aesculana* and runs in a more unbroken sweep from the costa to the apex. It typically narrows beyond the bend near the middle of the wing and tends to contrast sharply with lighter brown coloration along the dorsal third of the wing. The costa lacks a dark blotch at around one-fourth that is present in some of our *Proteoteras* species, and the series of alternating dark and light spots along the costa are generally less prominent. As in other members of this genus, both the thorax and forewing have conspicuous tufts that give them a lumpy appearance. The hindwing is light to medium brown.

DISTRIBUTION: *Proteoteras crescentana* occurs primarily in the eastern US, but can be found in extreme southern Canada from Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia to as far west as Alberta. In the US, populations occur from Maine and other New England states westward to eastern North Dakota, and southward though much of the eastern US to Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, and Texas. It is poorly represented in the Coastal Plain, and the western limit of the range terminates at the interface of the Eastern Deciduous Forest and Great Plains. As of 2022, our records are all from the Piedmont and lower elevations in the Blue Ridge.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Local populations are univoltine. The adults have been observed from April through July in different areas of the range, with a peak in June and July. In North Carolina, the adults have a more restricted flight season than certain species such as *P. aesculana*. As of 2024, our records extend from late May through early July.

HABITAT:

FOOD: Box-elder (*Acer negundo*) is the primary host (Forbes, 1923; Heinrich, 1923; Prentice, 1966; Wong et al., 1983; Miller, 1987; Lam et al., 2011; Beadle and Leckie, 2012), Other maples are suspected of being used on very rare occasion (Brown et al., 2008), but this has yet to be verified by rearing.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights and the spindle-shaped stem-swollings can be found on Box-elder.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR [S2S4]

STATE PROTECTION:

COMMENTS: This species appears to be uncommon in North Carolina, but we currently do not have sufficient information to confidently assess its conservation status.