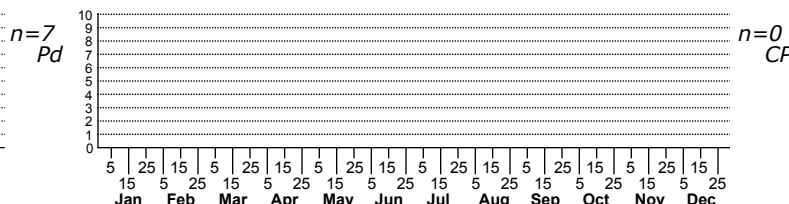
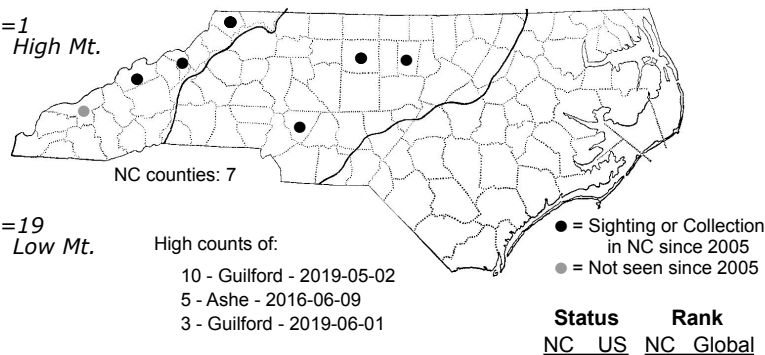
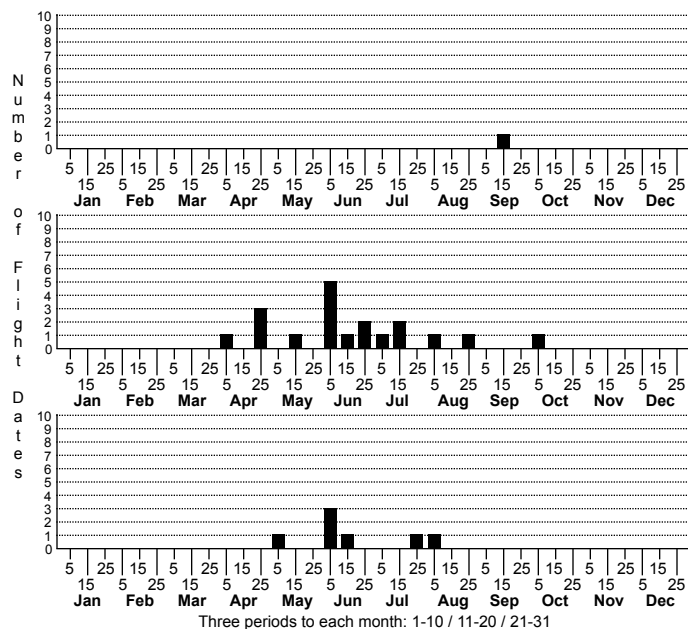


## *Gretchena amatana* None



FAMILY: Tortricidae SUBFAMILY: Olethreutinae TRIBE: Eucosmini

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: *Gretchena* is a New World genus with 12 recognized species. Eleven species occur in North America, and eight of these are endemic to eastern North America.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Beadle and Leckie (2012)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: This is one of several species of *Gretchena* that is best identified using genitalia. The following description is based in part on that of Heinrich (1923), but likely does not capture the full range of variation within this species. *Gretchena amatana* is a dark grayish fuscous species that is powdered and marked with ashy gray and blackish scales, with the paler areas having a somewhat ochreous tint, especially towards the costal margin of the forewing. The forewing has a somewhat irregular, triangular-shaped, pale blotch on the middle of dorsal margin, along with a second patch that precedes it that is often less well-defined. The two often produce a more-or-less hourglass pattern when a resting individual is viewed from above. The second patch is followed by an ocellus of similar color that is distinct and often preceded by varying levels of blackish scales. The lighter marks along the inner margin are surrounded by heavy blackish dusting that is often organized into distinct patches or streaks that contrast with the lighter marks. These may be organized as a distinct basal patch or basal streak that merges with additional blackish marks and dusting that extend longitudinally all the way to the apical region. The cilia are gray and dusted with blackish fuscous, but somewhat paler at the anal angle, and with one or two pale dashes below the apex. The hindwing is smoky fuscous with cilia that are slightly paler, and with a faint dark basal band.

Gilligan et al. (2008) remarked that the forewing color and maculation of this species are similar to those of *G. concitricana*, except that the interfascial areas are whitish gray in *G. amatana* instead of brownish gray as seen in *G. concitricana*. This species can also easily be confused with *G. concubitana*, and the authors recommend using genitalia for making positive identifications of these species.

DISTRIBUTION: *Gretchena amatana* is found in eastern North America, including portions of southern Canada (Manitoba; Ontario; Quebec; New Brunswick). In the US the range extends from Maine and other New England states southwestward mostly through the Appalachian region to North Carolina and eastern Tennessee, and westward to western Tennessee, eastern Kansas, Illinois and Wisconsin. As of 2024, we have records from the Piedmont and Blue Ridge.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been observed from April through July in different areas of the range. As of 2024, our record extends from late-April through early-October.

HABITAT: Local populations are generally associated with hardwood or mixed conifer-hardwood forests.

FOOD: As of 2024, the host plants appear to be unknown.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR[S2S4]

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

COMMENTS: This species appears to be somewhat uncommon in the state, but additional information is needed on its distribution, abundance and habitat requirements before its conservation status can be accurately assessed.