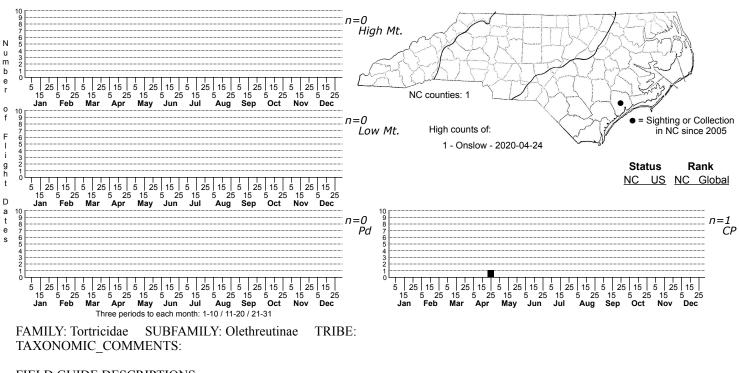


Hendecaneura shawiana Blueberry Tip Borer Moth



FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: ONLINE PHOTOS: TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Kearfott (1907a) TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The following is based in part on the description by Kearfott (1907a). The head is light olivaceous brown on the crown and white in front, while the palps are whitish with the terminal segment often smoky brown. The antenna is fuscous, and the thorax is fuscous to grayish-brown and often with lighter specks on the posterior end. The forewing ground is blackish-brown with patches of orangish-brown scales that are concentrated in the apical third, and particularly in the sub-apical region. A conspicuous irregular white patch is present along the middle of the dorsal margin that extends inward to about one-quarter of the wing depth. The costa is mostly unmarked except for four white dashes on the outer half. The apical third of the wing has two angulated, parallel, shiny bluish-silvery to leaden-blue fascia (the second at the anal angle) that begin on the inner margin then angle at the middle before terminating at one of the white spots along the costa. The rather poorly expressed ocellus is nested between the two metallic bars and is orangish-brown with a few faint horizontal black lines. The fringe is grayish with a blackish basal line, and the hindwing is dark smoky brown with a whitish-gray fringe and a black basal line. The legs are grayish-white and shaded with blackish-brown.

DISTRIBUTION: <i>Hendecaneura shawiana</i> is found in eastern North America at mostly northern latitudes. Populations have been found in Canada from Ontario eastward to Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, and in the US in Michigan, New York, and in mostly costal habitats from Maine southward to coastal North Carolina. As of 2022, we have a single record from Onslow County.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Local populations are univoltine. The adults have been collected from April through August, with a seasonal peak typically in June. As of 2022, our one record is from 24 April.

HABITAT: This species appears to be a specialist on blueberries and is found in open to partially sunny sites that support the host plants.

FOOD: Blueberries (<i>Vaccinium</i> spp.) are the only known host, including commercial varieties (Robinson et al., 2010; Schaefers, 1962).

OBSERVATION_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights and the larvae can be found by searching in stems with wilted or dead shoot tips.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR [S1-S3]

STATE PROTECTION:

COMMENTS: This species appears to be at the southern limit of its range in North Carolina where it seems to be rare. We need additional information on its distribution and abundance before we can accurately assess its conservation status.