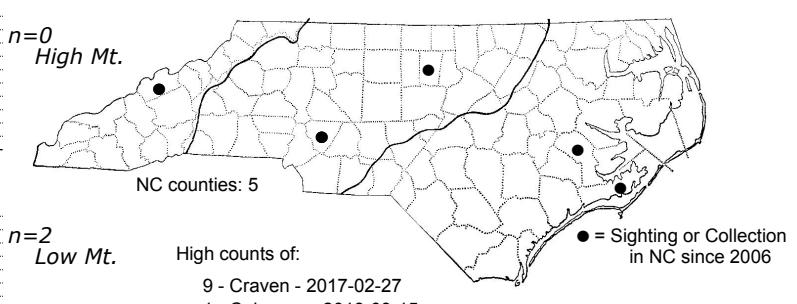
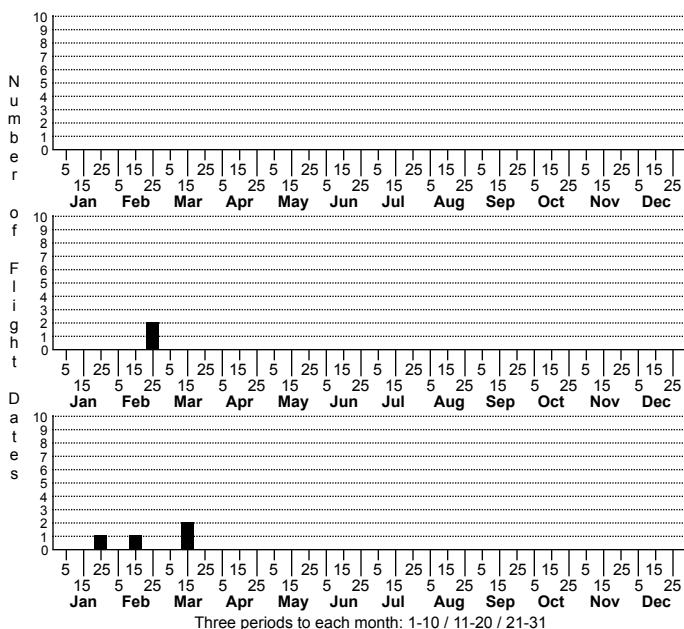


Epinotia vertumnana None



High counts of:
 9 - Craven - 2017-02-27
 1 - Cabarrus - 2018-03-15
 1 - Carteret - 2020-03-20

Status Rank
 NC US NC Global

n=2
CP

FAMILY: Tortricidae SUBFAMILY: Olethreutinae TRIBE: Eucosmini
 TAXONOMIC COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Brown (1986)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: MacKay (1959)

ID COMMENTS: <i>Epinotia vertumnana</i> is highly variable in coloration and patterning (Brown, 1986). The forewings can vary from being uniformly dark brown to nearly uniformly light sandy colored. Other forms have been found with discontinuous, dark-brown, basal, median, and apical longitudinal streaks, or with a continuous longitudinal streak on a lighter background. Some of these forms were previously classified as different species, which has added to the taxonomic confusion. One common form in North Carolina has a mostly dark brown forewing except for a lighter, broadly-wavy line along the inner margin that is mottled with darker dusting. When resting individuals are viewed from above, a light hour-glass figure is present on the apical two-thirds of the inner margin, along with concolorous scaling on the head, thorax and tornal region. Genitalic differences are usually sufficient to sort certain color forms of this species from closely-related species such as <i>E. xandana</i>, and in some instances may be required.

DISTRIBUTION: <i>Epinotia vertumnana</i> is restricted to eastern North America, with positively identified specimens based on genitalia occurring in Ontario and Quebec in Canada, and from Michigan eastward to Pennsylvania and southward to northern Mississippi and eastern Texas (Brown, 1986). MPG has the range extending from Maine westward to Wisconsin and Minnesota, and southward to Maryland, West Virginia and western Tennessee. As of 2024, we have a few scattered records from all three physiographic provinces.

FLIGHT COMMENT: This is an early season flier. Brown (1986) reported collection dates from late-February through mid-April, with southern populations flying a month or more earlier than northern populations. As of 2024, we have records that extend from mid-February through mid-March.

HABITAT:

FOOD: Brown (1986) examined several adults that were reared from hawthorns (<i>Crataegus</i>) from two sites in Ontario and verified that they were <i>Epinotia vertumnana</i>. A report of this species feeding on hackberry (<i>Celtis</i>) was likely a misidentified <i>E. celtisana</i> since Heinrich (1923) treated <i>E. celtisana</i> as being conspecific with <i>E. vertumnana</i>.

OBSERVATION METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights. More information is needed on the life history and habitat requirements of this species.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR[S2S3]

STATE PROTECTION:

COMMENTS: This species appears to be rare in North Carolina, but this may reflect under collecting associated with the early flight season.