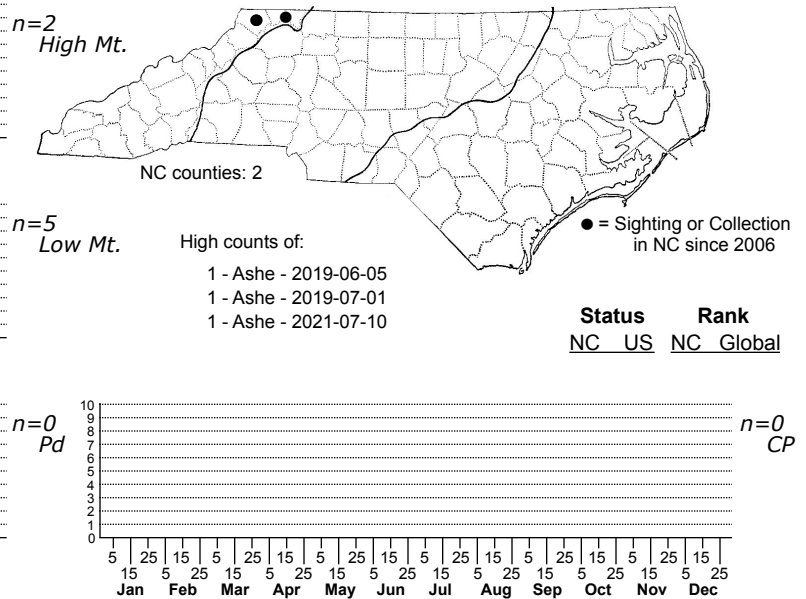
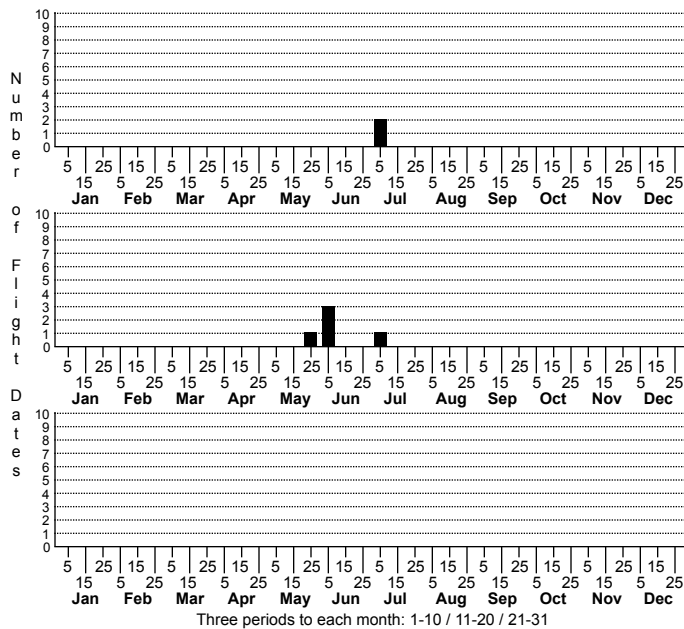


# *Ancylis spiraeifoliana* No common name



FAMILY: Tortricidae SUBFAMILY: Olethreutinae TRIBE: Enarmoniini

TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS: *Ancylis burgessiana*, *A. fuscociliana*, *A. laciniana*, *A. mira* and *A. spiraeifoliana* are members of a taxonomically challenging species complex. Gilligan et al. (2008) summarized the issues with this complex and concluded that the limits of the constituent taxa are too poorly understood to permit species level determinations. The original descriptions of the members were based on specimens that were assumed to use different host plants, but that has since proven to be unreliable. The forewing of all members of the complex has a prominent basal patch along the inner margin and a well defined, brown, median fascia that connects the costa to two, black, longitudinal dashes anterior to the ocellus. Traditionally, species such as *A. burgessiana* and *A. laciniana* were separated by the color of the blackish dorsal patch, but that character is now considered to be too variable to be diagnostic. The genitalia associated with these different forms also are indistinguishable, so future progress in establishing species boundaries will probably have to rely on studies that are based on a long series of reared individuals, along with analyses of molecular data (Gilligan et al., 2008). It is possible that some of the members may ultimately be synonymized. Here, we have provisionally assigned specimens to the traditionally recognized species with the understanding that they are all members of a poorly resolved species complex.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: This species has blackish basal patch on the inner margin that is often margined with whitish scales. The outer margin of the patch is somewhat irregular, with a shallow inward bow near the terminus. The lateral band that originates on the costal tends to be dirty brown, with the margins not crispy defined.

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT:

FOOD: This species appears to specialize on Ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*) (Clemens, 1861; McDunnough, 1955; MacKay, 1959; Wheeler and Hoebeke, 1985). *A. spiraeifoliana* was previously placed in the genus *Spirea*, and older reports of this species feeding on *Spirea* presumably refer to Ninebark. As of 2024, we do not have any feeding records for North Carolina.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS:

STATE PROTECTION:

COMMENTS: